# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

BOARD MEETING

APRIL 5-6, 1990

WARREN POL

CHAIRMAN

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

# **AGENDA**

# LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION BATON ROUGE LOUISIANA APRIL 5-6, 1990

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#### MINUTES OF MEETING

#### LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

APRIL 5-6, 1990

Chairman Warren Pol presiding:

Thursday, April 5, 1990

Don Hines
Jimmy Jenkins
Bert Jones
Norman McCall
Pete Vuinovich

Secretary Van Sickle was also present.

Friday, April 6, 1990

Don Hines
Jimmy Jenkins
Bert Jones
Norman McCall
Pete Vujnovich

At Thursday's meeting a motion was made by Dr. Hines for the Commission to go into Executive Session, for approximately one hour, on Cooper et. al. vs. LA Dept. Wildlife and Fisheries. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously. Captain Pete Vujnovich asked that he be excused from attending the executive session as it might be a conflict of interest and will not know until his meeting with the Ethics Committee tomorrow at which time a ruling will be issued. Captain Vujnovich was excused. The executive session will last about an hour and the Commission meeting will reconvene around 2 p.m. advised Chairman Pol.

Chairman Pol reconvened the April 5th Commission meeting a little after 2 p.m.

At Thursday's meeting a motion was made my Mr. Jenkins to accept the Minutes of the March 1-2, 1990, Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Captain Vujnovich and passed unanimously.

At Thursday's meeting, Mr. Norman McCall discussed Clarification of Boundaries of Calcasieu Sanctuaries and Ratification of Rule. Mr. McCall stated that he had asked that this item be put on the agenda because it has come to his attention that there is some confusion as to what the Commission proposed and what the boundary lines are. The intent of the proposed rule is that the boundaries

of the sanctuaries would be one-quarter of a mile from the mouth of the bayous out into the lake and one-quarter of a mile down each bank which would result in a half circle or a semi-circle. Mr. McCall advised that he would like to make sure that the word gets out to the law enforcement personnel, fishermen and everyone concerned as to what the actual boundaries lines are because of the confusion.

Chairman Pol called for questions pertaining to this item and asked Mr. McCall to repeat the boundaries which he did. Mr. Jenkins asked if this was the wording when the Commission first did this. Mr. McCall stated yes. Secretary Van Sickle commented that in the rule it said radius and this implies a circle which caused the law enforcement problems and they asked if this was on the inside or the outside. Looking at the minutes of the meeting and what Mr. McCall proposed, it was determined that the discussion basically centered on the outside in the lake, restriction of trawling, butterfly netting, and gill netting, with crab nets being allowed advised Secretary Van Sickle.

Secretary Van Sickle stated that she had some comments on behalf of the department regarding this item and asked if she could proceed. This issue is a big issue and about three weeks ago the issue came to a head when about 350 fishermen met in Lake Charles to express their concern about the Cameron - Creole Watershed the impoundment of the marsh, the trapping of shrimp within the marsh and the use of the shrimp by landowners, and the blockage of the ingress and egress of marine organisms into the marsh. Ultimately a statement was made at that meeting that the project needed to proceed and the marsh should be taken care of, but in the interim the department ought to do as much as possible to be able to manage for the ingress and egress of fish and shrimp. In order to accomplish this, the department feels that the four little narrow gauntlets that basically the fish and shrimp use to migrate out of the marsh should be taken out of commercial netting so that no individual, no landowner, and no group of three or four butterfly netters who may have access to the property can get in there and block the migration of these shrimp out into the public domain, which is Calcasieu Lake. For this reason, Secretary Van Sickle stated that she would propose that one of two things be Number one, the quarter mile radius could apply as it says in the proposed Notice of Intent as a true radius and extend behind the water control structures. This has been discussed with John Wather who is the manager of the Cameron - Creole Watershed and he has no problems with this. The second alternative would be to restrict the entire Cameron - Creole Watershed, which is over a hundred thousand acres of marsh, to commercial shrimping. watershed and the weirs that are blocking the ingress and egress of shrimp into the marsh were not constructed to impound shrimp for This is not the purpose of the Cameron - Creole landowners. Watershed and the landowners themselves are saying this is not what they want to do, this was done to protect their marsh.

process of protecting their marsh, if the control structures are operated in one way all the shrimp can be allowed to get in the marsh and basically you turn Cameron - Creole into a mariculture operation from which the shrimp cannot get out stated Secretary Van Sickle and she strongly asked the Commission to consider at least one of the two alternatives. The two alternatives are 1) to extend the radius and make it a true radius of a quarter of mile around the structures; 2) entirely eliminate commercial trawling and gill netting from the Cameron - Creole Watershed. Secretary Van Sickle advised that maps and notices of intent for both of these alternatives are available for consideration by the Commission.

Mr. McCall had some questions about the definition of a radius and stated that a radius is part of an arch or part of a circle, most of the time in a 180 degrees or less, and nowhere did he find where a radius is considered a circle. Mr. McCall pointed out that number four on the agenda was being discussed and Secretary Van Sickle combined number five with four as an alternative. Secretary Van Sickle stated that if the Commission votes for number five than number four is a mute point and will not even be needed and pointed out that the notice of intent that was passed by the Commission says "the areas within a one-quarter mile radius of Lambert, Grand Bayou, Mangrove and Peconia water control structures" and does not say on the lakeside. Mr. McCall stated that when this was discussed it was plainly said the lake and there was no discussion on anything but the lake. Chairman Pol suggested that since there were a lot of people at the meeting that wanted to discuss Item #5 (Cameron - Creole Watershed) and as Secretary Van Sickle stated if you vote for one the other becomes a mute point, to hold off on the ratification of the Calcasieu Sanctuaries and move on to Item #5 and get the feelings of the landowners.

At Thursday's meeting Item #5, Notice of Intent, Restriction of Trawling and Netting in Cameron - Creole Watershed was opened for discussion by Chairman Pol. Secretary Van Sickle advised that for the purpose of this discussion. trawls, butterfly nets, gill nets, seines or trammel nets (all netting like this) with the exception of hand cast nets and crab drop nets will be prohibited in the Cameron - Creole Watershed.

Mr. Pat Screen addressed the Commission on behalf of Mr. Henry McCall of Calcasieu Parish who is the brother of Mr. Norman McCall, Commission member. Mr. Screen passed out materials to the Commissioners for their consideration which dates back to the origins of the project which was prepared by the Graverdy Drainage District, Soil Conservation Service and an agency of the state government, the Department of Public Works. This is descriptive literature that preceded the project, what the project will not do and was filed in the Cameron Parish Courthouse. What the project will not do. "Prevent the use of the area for fishing, shrimping and crabbing". Mr. Screen pointed out that there was also a copy of an agreement between Mr. McCall and the State of Louisiana

through the Graverdy Drainage District wherein he gives them the right to come in and construct this weir but reserves to himself the right to use the property to the fullest extent to which the state agreed which is also filed in the Cameron Parish Courthouse. Mr. Screen commented that it was his understanding that Mr. McCall's position in Lake Charles is not in any manner whatsoever to restrict the migration or the movement of the shrimp into the marsh or out of the marsh and it is Mr. Screen's appreciation that when this control device is opened that nature takes it course. Mr. McCall is the landowner and he has granted the state of Louisiana, at its request at no cost, permission for the state to come in and build this project on his property for the stated purposes of the project, to protect the marsh. All that Mr. McCall is requesting is that in essence the state keeps it word and that it not restrict his usage of the property by allowing him to shrimp on his property. He does not want to do damage to anyone else and does not want to restrict the movement of shrimp into the marsh or out of the marsh but does want to protect his constitutional right and live by the deal he made with the state to simply use his property to the fullest extent possible which is the basic rights of any landowner and to the extent that it does not defeat the purpose of the project as the literature said which was to save the The issue, is can a landowner use his marsh advised Mr. Screen. property and particularly when the landowner struck a deal with the state of Louisiana and the state said yes you can. What Mr. McCall is asking the state government to do through its various agencies is to live with the agreement, commented Mr. Screen. Secretary Van Sickle asked how the quarter mile radius would impact Mr. McCall. Mr. Screen advised that it was his understanding that Mr. McCall agreed to a radius but the radius that was agreed to was 200 feet. Secretary Van Sickle asked if at any time did the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission say that they would not regulate shrimp or fishing in the Calcasieu. To Mr. Screen's knowledge they did not, but the Commission being an agent of the state of Louisiana he thinks it was in good faith when literature was produced to voters, citizens and landowners encouraging them to cooperate with the state through its various agencies and they in fact did cooperate and now almost twenty years later to say there is a new set of rules gets to be an issue of good faith. Secretary Van Sickle asked Ms. Karen Foote to get a couple of large maps of the area for discussion purposes. Chairman Pol asked about the agreement and the date it was made. Mr. Screen advised that it was filed in the Cameron Parish Courthouse and the project dates back well over a decade, but the larger picture is that it was initiated, not by the landowners, but by various levels of government, government, state government and its agencies and this particular landowner cooperated totally and all he is asking for is that the use of his land not be restricted. Secretary Van Sickle asked Mr. Screen if he understood what the issue was and explained that someone can go in there and block, with butterfly nets, the ingress of a hundred thousand acres worth of shrimp out of that marsh and this was not dealt with by the Cameron Graverdy Drainage District twenty years ago when the project was envisioned. Mr. Screen asked if this has been the issue, if this man had done this. Secretary Van Sickle answered no but last year there were some of these incidents which occurred and there are a lot of upset shrimpers out there. Mr. Screen stated that he can understand this but it gets to the issue of is the cure worse than the problem and when you take a person's property and deny them the usage of their property, particularly when it contradicts a previous agreement, it gets to the heart of the constitution.

Dr. Hines asked Mr. McCall if there would be any problem with the other four areas if a circle is made around them. Mr. McCall stated that of the other four structures two are on government property and two are on private property and there are some private property landowners at the meeting who would like to talk about that.

Mr. Harry Brown, Commercial Fisherman, Cameron, LA, addressed the Commission. Mr. Brown stated that on this issue he thought that there was already a law on the statutes which says that 500 feet was the distance before you could set a net and if there was already a law he did not see any purpose for what is being done Dr. Hines asked if this law affected butterfly net and Secretary Van Sickle stated that it was fixed nets. Vidrine advised that it affected butterfly nets also. Mr. Brown stated that if this was already on the statutes he did not see where the quarter of a mile would be needed. Secretary Van Sickle commented that it was a whole lot bigger area. Mr. Brown asked why was there a problem when at 500 hundred feet away from the weir or the mouth of the bayou the butterfly will not catch that much and nets are not set within 500 feet now. Mr. McCall stated that it not only pertains to butterfly it pertains to any kind of trawling or netting. Mr. Brown commented this is what he is saying and there will be a quarter of a mile area out in the lake that the shrimpers cannot drag their trawls. Secretary Van Sickle answered that this is the way it is right now. Dr. Hines asked Secretary Van Sickle if the department had any objection if it was a quarter of a mile out into the lake and 500 feet inland. Secretary Van Sickle stated that it does not create any problems for the department but might create a problem for the shrimpers. Dr. Hines suggested that wording "on the lakeside only of a quarter of a mile" be put into rule and the law would take care of 500 feet on the inland side. Mr. Brown stated that he did not see why it has to be extended from 500 feet.

Mr. Roger Vincent, Jr., Land Manager for Miami Corporation in the state of Louisiana, addressed the Commission. Mr. Vincent stated that Miani has approximately a minimum of 30,000 acres to possibly 100,000 acres of land in Cameron Parish. The variance is caused mainly by the fact they do not know where the line stops, if it stops at Highway 27 you are looking at 30,000 acres and if it includes the big burns you are looking at approximately 100,000

acres stated Mr. Vincent. Miami Corporation is a very large landowner and 99% of their money is derived from the oil and gas industry by leasing their land for the discovery of these products. If surface income that is derived from fishing would be over a million dollars it would be a surprise to Mr. Vincent. It would cost Miami more money to regulate shrimping than any income that would be earned or has been earned in shrimping and it is not worth it advised Mr. Vincent. This has been done and proven in the past when Miami did allow commercial shrimping they did not do very well and are not interested in it in the future. Mr. Vincent stated that he was going to assume that Miami's right-of-way is similar, if not more demanding, than McCall's. The Soil Conservation and Graverty Drainage was a drainage program and not a mariculture and the shrimp are happening by accident stated Mr. Vincent. thirty, forty years ago this was brought up as a problem due to the widening and dredging of the ship channel into Lake Charles to some 30 feet by 400 feet wide and the marsh is getting a large charge of saltwater which has turned the freshwater marsh, where 100,000 muskrat were caught a year, into a marsh where you cannot find an animal. The marsh is not there stated Mr. Vincent. In 1959 Miami put up a levee, in this same area, at its own expense to protect Sabine Refuge, to the south, owns another 15,000 its land. 20,000 acres and Mr. Vincent pointed out that John Wathers has not allowed shrimping on the refuge in years and trawling is not allowed on Sabine Refuge. Mr. Vincent stated that he was at the meeting in Lake Charles on March 6 which was called by Randy Roach to discuss this issue and there were some 350 people in attendance. Not all the people attending were shrimpers and Mr. Vincent put the percentage at 50-50 or 40-60 as shrimpers. It was pointed out that the shrimp did not have access last year but it would not have made any difference as there was 20 inches of water on the marsh. Calcasieu Lake remained fresh most of the year so no shrimp could have grown to begin with stated Mr. Vincent. A management plan was devised after numerous years of negotiations with the shrimpers being well represented along with U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Louisiana Department of Wildlife, NMFS, and Corps of Engineers all concerned about the access that the estuary users would receive, the structures were designed to allow this and the management plan allows it. However, there is a window in time, the first two years where the water was to be taken off and attempts made to revegetate large bodies of open water, the land loss in that area was a minimum of 40,000 acres. If it all turns to water and there is no vegetation to support the shrimp or menhaden industry the shrimp will not want it. Mr. Vincent stated that he understands the shrimpers concern but at the same time the marsh has got to be raised so that shrimp can be raised.

Chairman Pol asked Mr. Vincent if Miami harvests shrimp for resale or sale? Mr. Vincent stated that he is embarrassed to say that he has instructed his people not to and there was a limited incident with a commercial harvest, a very small one. Mr. Vincent informed the Commission that he does receive shrimp out of the

system for his freezer and personal use. Miami Corporation is concerned as Mr. Pat Screen said with the constitutional issue and feels that they have done nothing and are not going to do anything but remain in the oil and gas industry. They are concerned about the boundaries going into the 10,000 to 100,000 acres that are owned by Miami and where the line is going to stop. Mr. Vincent stated that he did not believe the whole 100,000 acres that Secretary Van Sickle discussed is all shrimp producing acreage. Will restrictions be put on the crabs, asked Mr. Vincent and advised that Miami does have four crabbers who have been there for at least 3-4 years and were there before the structures were in. Will restrictions be put on the fur because the fur benefits or will alligators be banded from harvesting and last but not least what will happen to the duck hunter asked Mr. Vincent. One issue that Mr. Vincent stated that he has not heard discussed in this forum is the fact that there are some state or federal monies invested and does the state and federal government have the authority to regulate the landowners because the money has tainted their property. There was a recent Supreme Court case where there was a drainage permit or a drainage servitude granted and that drainage servitude was for drainage only, it did give the right to shrimping, fishing and continued access to private land and Miami sees this as a problem. Miami Corporation wants to do their share to bring the marsh back and stop the illegal shrimping on the Secretary Van Sickle stated that this is the way to do this. Mr. Vincent commented that the he does not like to be told how to do something and the department is condemning his land and Miami is definitely opposed to this. Mr. Vincent agrees with Secretary Van Sickle that this is the way to go. Last year Miami paid over a \$160,000 to Cameron Parish in taxes and believe that they have the right to at least try and do something about the problem and if it cannot be done Mr. Vincent will be the first one back to tell Secretary Van Sickle that they cannot do it. is currently entering into a joint venture with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service out of Atlanta to manage the Cameron - Creole tract and Miami has hired their assistant manager concluded Mr. Vincent.

Mr. Ricky Matherne, member of the Louisiana Shrimp Task Force, addressed the Commission on behalf of the task force. Mr. McThern stated that they have had fishermen coming in with complaints about the watershed project and after a lengthy discussion the board voted unanimously to restrict all commercial net fishing in the watershed project. There were many things mentioned at that meeting that has not been mentioned today advised Mr. McThern. Five recommendations were presented to the Commission that were unanimously voted on by the Shrimp Task Force. These recommendations are:

1. Request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to conduct a multi-use review of the Cameron - Creole Watershed Project and all future coastal restoration and marsh management

projects and make recommendations to lessen the short-term adverse impacts on estuarine fisheries resources without jeopardizing the overall long-term project objectives.

- Request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to increase its monitoring of estuarine fisheries in conjunction with the Cameron Creole Watershed Project and make recommendations for multi-use operation of the project's structures to lessen the short-term adverse impacts on estuarine fisheries without jeopardizing the overall long-term project objectives.
- Request the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service develop a more efficient method of operating and water control structures on the Cameron Creole Watershed Project, such that the gates can be opened and closed on a shorter time frame.
- 4. Recommends all coastal restoration and marsh management projects have a current economic impact study done before they are authorized or permitted.
- 5. Recommends to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other appropriate state and federal agencies that representatives from all affected parties, including commercial fishermen, be included on any and all advisory boards which review or develop recommendations for the operations of coastal restoration and marsh management plans.

As a commercial fisherman Mr. Matherne stated that he sits on the Jefferson Parish Marine Advisory Board and right now they are looking at a permit that went to the Corps of Engineers that has to do with a levee, restoration, etc. As a fisherman he see this issue coming all the way across the coast. They had fishermen attending their meeting and stated that you could fish inside the gates of a landowner but you had to give them 30 percent of your catch. Mr. Matherne stated that one day in his area they may be paying a percentage of their catch to fish in the area and this is why the issue is so important to the commercial fishermen.

Mr. Charlie Bediford addressed the Commission and talked about why the levee was put up which was because about four years ago the saltwater was killing the marshes. The land is dying and if it is not saved it will be to late. But if it is done right the marsh can be saved. Cooperation is needed and not any more agents. If the salt intrusion is not stopped from going into the marsh it will be gone and if you don't have the marsh you do not have anything left stated Mr. Bediford. Mr. Bediford believes the marsh is the number one priority and not the shrimp.

Mr. Tee John Mialjevich, President of the Concern Shrimpers of America addressed the Commission. Mr. Mialjevich stated that the only argument he has is people harvesting resources off of their property that they don't plant and using this watershed and other projects that are built to save the marsh as impoundments to capture products that belongs to everybody in the state that wants to get a commercial or recreational fishing license and then harvesting that product when it trys to leave the impoundment for their own personal gain which Mr. Mialjevich does not believe is legal. Sooner or later through the disguise of conservation and saving the marsh there will be a levee running down the coast of Louisiana all the way up to Highway 90 and it will all be impounded and there will be nothing but shrimp farms, crab farms, redfish farms and there will be no more commercial fishing industry. Mr. Mialjevich stated that he thinks the fishermen would be happy if the landowners were not harvesting those product at the restricted areas.

Mr. McCall stated that Senator Doland and Representative Roach have met with his brother and possibly some of the other landowners and there has been an agreement worked out among them that is satisfactory as least to those people involved in the discussion. Mr. McCall's brother has agreed not to fish within 200 feet of the structure out of the 1,500 foot involved. There may be some legislation possibly at the next session stated Mr. McCall.

Secretary Van Sickle addressed the 500 foot law and asked Mr. Brown to listen carefully. The 500 foot law applies 500 feet of the mouth of any inlet or pass, within 500 feet of any water control structure, dam or weir and prohibits butterfly nets, trawls, fyke nets, wing nets, seines, gill nets, trammel nets and any other nets that would interfere with the free passage as long as they are five feet apart. This is the problem, they can butterfly up to the structure as long as they are five feet and this will not take care of the problem stated Secretary Van Sickle.

After a short discussion between the Commissioners it was decided that a vote on the clarification of the definition of the sanctuary would be taken up today and Item #5 be studied more and taken up at the next Commission meeting. Mr. McCall made a motion that the boundaries of the Calcasieu Sanctuaries be from the mouth of the Bayou of the five structures that have been talked about, onequarter of a mile out into the lake, one-quarter of a mile to the right and left which if you drew a line between the three points would make a half circle. This is on the four to the north of No Name Bayou. On No Name Bayou the same rule would apply except it would an eighth of a mile. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Dr. Hines asked why would No Name Bayou be treated different on the lakeside. Mr. McCall explained that No Name Bayou is right close It is almost a mile to the entrance of the old to East Fork. Calcasieu River and there is a set of jetties in front of it and the fishermen felt like a quarter of a mile would be harmful and Secretary Van Sickle advised that there is a technical point that the department attorney wanted to bring up. Mr. Don Puckett advised that he had a copy of the draft rule Mr. Don Puckett advised that he had a copy of the draft rule prepared for ratification which basically ratifies what the Commission did at the Notice of Intent meeting but it contains language (on the lakeside only) that would basically take care of what Mr. McCall is concerned about. Chairman Pol called for vote the motion that was on the floor. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Pol suggested that further study be done on Item #5 and asked Secretary Van Sickle that it be postponed until the next meeting. Secretary Van Sickle stated this may be something that the Commissioners want to put a lot of thought into because the new Coastal Restoration Plan that will be presented to the Legislature next week has eleven such projects in it and this issue is not going to go away with Cameron - Creole. A policy is needed that would address everybody's interest and that would apply not to just these landowners but to everybody who impounds their marsh and impacts commercial fishing and shrimping stated Secretary Van Sickle. Dr. Hines stated that the Commission might have hit on something when the wrong information about the 500 feet was given and asked if anybody had any major objection to prohibiting fishing 500 feet from the structures on the inland side?

Mr. Preston Hebert, Cameron, fishermen on McCall's property in No Name Bayou, addressed the Commission. Mr. Hebert advised that it is only 1,512 feet from the gate at the weirs to the property line and if you give up 500 feet there will be no room to drag a net in there. An agreement was made for 200 feet with Randy Roach and Jack Doland which would give the fishermen a little room to drag to the property line.

Mr. Bill Delaney, past Assistant Manager, Sabine Refuge and currently working for Miami Corporation addressed the Commission. Mr. Delaney stated that on the 200 foot that Mr. McCall agreed to Miami will hold to that 200 foot. At the present time Miami does not have shrimping but does have crabbing interest and something that should come to the forefront is that a lot of these areas that are going into management projects have been historically fished advised Mr. Delaney. Mr. Delaney asked that when the the Commission and Secretary Van Sickle are looking into this issue and studying it in the next few weeks that he be given a call because he has been the one that has been on the structures for the last three years and can tell them what is going on.

At Friday's meeting Mr. Phil Bowman read the revised proposed rule on the Calcasieu Sanctuaries which containers the language that the Legal Counsel suggested.

Mr. Jenkins asked how far up in these little bayous are these water control structures and the reason he is asking is because the radius is drawn from the water control structure not the extended shoreline and will make a little difference from the water control structure. Mr. Bowman stated that it would and as he appreciates it and having seen all the structures for the Cameron - Creole

the one quarter mile radius would get to the end of the canal and actually protrude out into the lake. Mr. Jenkins stated that the intent is suppose to be a quarter of a mile out into the lake. Mr. McCall agreed. Mr. Jenkins stated the center that the radius was drawn from would be the extension of the center line of the canal out to the shoreline. After a short discussion it was decided to leave the rule as it was written. Mr. McCall made a motion to adopt the rule on Calcasieu Sanctuaries. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously.\*

(The full text of the rule is made a part of the record)

RULE WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

TITLE 76
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

PART VII. FISH AND OTHER AQUATIC LIFE

CHAPTER 3. SALTWATER SPORT AND COMMERCIAL FISHING

SECTION 333. SANCTUARIES; CALCASIEU LAKE

The area within a one quarter mile radius on the lake side only of the Lambert, Grand Bayou, Mangrove, and Peconi water control structures (otherwise identified as structures no. 5, 1, 8 and 4 respectively), and the area within a one eighth mile radius on the lake side only of the water control structure on No Name Bayou, all within the Calcasieu Lake system; the area within a one quarter mile radius on the lake side only of the mouths of Three Bayous and Willow Bayou where they empty into Sabine Lake are shrimp sanctuaries and closed zones and all netting of fish by any means or methods including but not limited to trawls, butterfly nets, gill nets, seines, or trammel nets, is hereby prohibited, with the exception of hand cast nets, crab traps and crab drop nets.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:315 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (April 1990).

> Warren Pol Chairman

\*The above rule on Calcasieu Sanctuaries which was passed at the April 6, 1990 Commission meeting was not passed in its entirety as there was a portion left out accidentally during revision. The rule will be ratified in its entirety at the May Commission meeting on May 3-4, 1990.

At Friday's meeting Chairman Pol stated that Item #5 (Cameron -Creole Watershed) was posponed for future action to another board Dr. Hines stated that he thought everybody that was meeting. present at yesterday's meeting would accept no fishing 200 feet on the inland side from the water control structure; the law takes care of the next 250 feet that they have to be at least 5 feet apart so you would have 500 feet more or less that there would be no blockage or limited blockage to the egress from that area. might be a workable compromise that everybody can live with and Dr. Hines asked that everyone look into it. Chairman Pol stated that this is why he had postponed this issue until the next meeting so that everyone could reconsider and get the feelings of the all the landowners who are opposed and very possibly have considered legal action if the Commission goes ahead with this.

Mr. Jenkins commented that he agrees and maybe they should instruct the staff to look at this with whatever legal ramifications there may be with the present structures. There is a need to develop a policy for future structures before they are built. Secretary Van Sickle advised that her staff will do this and Chairman Pol advised that whatever time they need is fine but thinks maybe there should be a meeting with the property owners and try to work out something that will work for both parties. Mr. Jones stated that he thought Secretary Van Sickle brought up a good point yesterday that this was going to be a recurring problem and the Commission really needs to put some serious thought into this so that consistency can be maintained. Secretary Van Sickle advised that there are at least 15 major water management projects planned for next year and she has been assured by the legal staff on several occasions that Graverty Drainage District in Cameron Parish has no bearing over fish and wildlife and they cannot regulate it, they cannot preempt this Commission. All future projects should be looked at in the same light so that everybody is treated fairly.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Johnnie Tarver discussed the Experimental Alligator Harvest Program, Marsh Island, 1989-90 Proposal. Tarver stated that alligators have been harvested on Marsh Island under an experimental program since 1981. The department will continue to request a experimental harvest program on Marsh Island probably for the next couple of years. The objectives for this project are to assess the reproductive rate of adult size female alligators, to evaluate the sex and size class frequency distribution of summer harvest in alligators, to evaluate the accuracy of a calculated optimum harvest and to evaluate population age structure. Since 1986, intensive work has been going on and 1,700 female alligators have been examined. As of this date, over 5,200 alligators have been collected since 1986 and it has been found that 25.3 percent of the adult females nest annually which is a little bit different than what had been reported. The overall sex ratio was 56 percent males and 46 percent females. In the immature classes there was 67 percent males and 33 percent females.

From all the available data analyzed to generate population estimates, the harvest estimate and from other pieces of information on the harvest quota, the department calculates how many of these animal are taken off of Marsh Island. In 1990 it is planned for 1,000 alligators to be taken off of Marsh Island. The aging data indicates that there is varying growth rate from different habitats. Age structure is used to estimate populations. The department plans in 1990 to have a split season in May and July and there will be a selection of hunters, a sale of alligators and contracts. This season will be handled very similar as it has been in past years. Concluding Mr. Tarver advised the Commission that the Russell Sage Foundation requested that Mr. Tarver bring this information to the Commissioners (not for a vote) attention and seek public comments along these lines.

Chairman Pol asked if there were any questions or comments on the proposed alligator harvest on Marsh Island. Let the record show that there were no public comments from the audience on the Marsh Island alligator harvest season.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Bob Dennie presented a Resolution and Notice of Intent for Free Fishing Days, June 9-10, 1990. Mr. Dennie pointed out that on the agenda for the meeting there was a typo and the dates should be June 9-10 and not June 9-19. Mr. Dennie presented the resolution and Notice of Intent for the free fishing day to the Commission and advised that there are approximately 25 states that are doing the same program and about nine others with it under consideration. Chairman Pol called for a motion. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to adopt. It was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution is made a part of the record)

#### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: Sportfishing provides recreation for more than sixty million Americans of all ages, giving families a healthy, shared outdoor activity, and

WHEREAS: Sportfishing, through the payment of millions of dollars annually for licenses, taxes and fees, has provided the funding for federal and state programs that contribute significantly to the preservation and protection of our natural environment, and

WHEREAS: The estimated 800,000 plus sportfishermen in Louisiana contribute in excess of one billion dollars annually to our economy, and

WHEREAS: Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature authorizes the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare

no more than two free recreational fishing days each year, and

WHEREAS: Free Fishing Days during National Fishing Week would provide an excellent opportunity to introduce additional individuals to the wholesome outdoor activity of fishing.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That we the undersigned members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby officially declare the week of June 4-10, 1990 as

#### PISHING WEEK

in the state of Louisiana, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That June 9 and 10, 1990 are hereby declared free recreational fishing days, during which residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

# April 6, 1990

Warren I. Pol

Don Hines

Jimmy Jenkins

Bert Jones

Norman F. McCall

Joe Palmisano, Jr.

Peter G. Vujnovich, Sr.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

(The full text of the notice of intent is made a part of the record)

#### NOTICE OF INTENT

# DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

In accordance with Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature, it is the intent of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare June 9 and 10, 1990 as Free Recreational Fishing Days in Louisiana to coincide with National Fishing Week June 4-10, 1990. On the two above mentioned free fishing days, residents and non-residents may exercise the privilege of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

Interested persons may submit their views in writing to Bob Dennie, Information and Education Director, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000.

CITATION: None - Changes Annually

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:302.7 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: ( ).

## Warren Pol Chairman

At Thursday's meeting Dr. Jerry Clark presented a Notice of Intent on the Black Drum Management Plan. Dr. Jerry Clark advised that starting last year when a stock assessment indicated that the black drum were being over-harvested in Louisiana a long series of activities were begun to get to where the department is today. Today a set of permanent rules, following two emergency rules, will be proposed to the Commission for the management of black drum in Louisiana Dr. Clark informed the Commissioners. An introduction was presented by Dr. Clark in which it was pointed out that the original stock assessments that were done and in which it was indicated that Louisiana was over-harvesting black drum were correct and that in 1987 and 1988 the harvest of black drum in Louisiana exceeded what would be considered acceptable under a conservation standard. The actions that have been taken were necessary and were predicated on good biological understanding of the specie. Another thing that was learned along the way was that principally the over-harvest had to do with the fact that this fish was being harvested at a very small size by a lot of people, both recreational and commercial fishermen. This is important because of the fact that this fish grows so fast and this predominates both the biological, social and economic ways in which this fish is fished for. At age one on average this fish weighs just over half a pound; age two it weighs just over two and half pounds; and at Between age one and age age three it weighs over five pounds. three this fish gets to be about four times it weight and a lot of the things that have been discussed and information received on this fish has to do with how many pounds have been landed during each of those years with the question being if this was to many pounds or two few pounds thus not focusing on the fish itself advised Dr. Clark. The analysis that was done was focused on the number of fish involved in the harvest and there is a great difference in whether or not you harvest 900 million pounds of 15pound fish or 900 million pounds of half-pound fish. Using the conservation standard that was put together by a group of biologists, if harvesting fish at all sizes continues as has been done in the past, the maximum harvest would probably be around 5 million pounds in the state of Louisiana. If some minimum sizes were to be instituted this harvest and pounds can go from about 5 million pounds to almost 10 million pounds. If the fish are harvested at a little larger size then the poundage that was landed

in 1987 and 1988 it would not be over-harvest if you were harvesting a fish of a different size advised Dr. Clark. number of fish caught have been focused on and not the number of pounds and this has enabled biologists to learn a lot about the fish and about its management. At this point Dr. Clark explained the Notice of Intent on the Black Drum and asked for comments or Upon completion of explaining the notice Dr. Clark stated that this was a relatively complicated matter which has to do with the fact that this fish has a relatively complicated life, it does not just grow up in one place and stay there it moves around, it has to do with the fact that this fish grows very rapidly and part of the proposed recommendation is to take advantage of this. There are literally an unlimited number of different strategies that people could come up with to harvest this fish that would all be biologically sound and Dr. Clark explained one of them which was the minimum size limit being lowered to 14 So many fish have historically been harvested in or about 14 inches that they predominate in the historical records and the department's data indicates that if the minimum size limit was to be reduced from 16 to 14 inches the state would be moving into a of fish that has been very heavily fished by both recreational and commercial fishermen over the last two or three If this is done the maximum amount of fish that could be harvested would be no more than about 5 million pounds and anything above would be over-harvesting and violating the conservation If the minimum size was reduced to 14 inches it would be acceptable with a 14 to 27 inch quota but there would not be any bull drum quota since the bull drum quota would be transferred to the small fish quota advised Dr. Clark. The reason the department has chosen the 16 inch over the 14 inch has to do with the fact that it makes since to try to land 10 million pounds in a biologically safe matter rather than 5 million pounds. Economic data shows that in the bull drum fishery these fish are only worth maybe a \$1 to a \$1.50 a piece which says that a commercial fisherman is only getting a \$1-\$1.50 for a 15-pound fish. If the size is 14 inches you are talking about a fish that only weighs between a half pound and a pound and the prices received for some of these fish were as low as .25 a pound advised Dr. Clark. Concluding, Dr. Clark stated that the recommendation that is being made to the Commission makes sense to the department but there are other choices that can be made which are within the biological standards and can be discussed at a later time.

Dr. Hines asked what happens between the 12th of April and the proposed opening date, September 1, 1990, of the fishery. Dr. Clark explained that there was a declaration of emergency in effect that would run out on August 11, 1990 and this rule would come into place before the August date. The counting of the quotas would start on September 1. Dr. Hines asked about reducing the length to 14 inches and having to give up 5 million pounds of fish. Dr. Clark advised that the best calculation is if this is reduced to 14 inches the 300,000 quota bull drum quota would simply go away

which would be over 4 million pounds. This information is based on the department's biological data which has taken place over the last two or three years.

Mr. McCall stated that the fishermen that have talked to him seem to have great concern about the numbers of the big bull drum that are being caught and have very little or no value on the market. They feel like it is a waste of reproductive resource to catch this big fish and in some cases get nothing for them. Mr. McCall said he has heard from two or three sources that a thousand bull drums were caught around the Leeville, Golden Meadow, Fourchon area and these fish were transported to Pasagoula, Mississippi, were turned down by the fish house, returned to Louisiana and finally just done Mr. McCall pointed out if there were a thousand fish involved and they all weighed 25 to 30 pounds a piece you are talking about 25-30,000 pounds of fish that nobody received any value for and maybe it would make sense to take two inches off and get down to a 14 inch limit and then do away with the catching of The Commission should seriously consider these big bull drums. this stated Mr. McCall.

Dr. Clark responded that both fish are relatively low value, a 14 inch fish is also a low value fish mainly because it is very small and it does not weigh very much. Both the fish between 14 and 16 inches, and those over 27 inches, are relatively low value.

Mr. McCall stated that he believes bull drum are most probably of lower value because there is a better market for the smaller fish then it is for the big drum.

Captain Vujnovich commented that the big drum fish is a very dangerous fish for the commercial people, especially the people in the oyster industry. These fish will eat four to five hundred sacks of oysters over night. When the crabs are scarce this is when they go after the oysters, but if the crabs are abundant they love the crabs, he said. Captain Vujnovich would like to see that the big drums are continued to be caught and commented that there is a market out there for the drum fish. To help the crabbers, oystermen and the shrimpers, Captain Vujnovich stated "let's do away with the big drum fish and try to save the small ones. Maybe for the sports you can lower it two inches to catch the small fish but for the commercial let's keep it up".

Mr. Mark Hiltzem addressed the Commission on behalf of the 8,500 members of GCCA on the proposed black drum regulations and plan. Mr. Hiltzem commented that there is no question that the black drum resources needed management. There has been a rapidly increasing commercial harvest since the early 80s' and black drum, like their cousin the red drum, have certain qualities that can put them at risk. These fish are long lived and become sexually mature at a late age, and as juveniles are an easy reach of the fishermen and fishing pressure. As adults, they school tightly and are

susceptible to purse seining, and are a good substitute for red fish and thus have a market attraction. Black drum are important recreationally and the plan states their value may be in excess of 4 million dollars using the most conservative evaluations which is considerably greater than the 2 million dollar commercial impact Before the dramatic increase in commercial that is in the plan. interest came in the early 80s' recreational landings outstripped commercial landings. Contrary to what some would have you believe the black drum issue is not one of commercial versus recreational fishermen, it is one of conservation versus over-fishing and one of insuring that the management regime that is embarked upon in It is this question of soundness and this plan is a sound one. what the overall goals and objectives are that gives Mr. Hiltzem and many of his members great concern. Obviously if the goals and objectives are to harvest the resource quickly and efficiently and maximize the short term economic gains one kind of management regime is set up. If the goals and objectives are to generate a yield which are sustainable over the long run a different kind of plan is set up. It has always been the GCCA's philosophy that a is set up which establishes a harvest level which is sustainable over the long run and which allows the species to be Mr. Heiltzem is concerned that this plan does not do First, no where in Section 1.3 in the Goals and Objectives this. of Management is there any language about maximum sustainable yield, language like on a continuing basis, any mention of avoiding over fishing, or fishing so as not to deplete, any mention of using the best economic and sociological information in making the plan decisions and yet these were all concepts that were all embraced by the Finfish Advisory Panel in their recommendations in September for a policy for Louisiana. This section which establishes the whole direction of the plan carefully avoids committing itself to conservation, to long range management. If the goals are to avoid conservation, then a plan will be set up to achieve that goal and Mr. Heiltzem thinks the logic follows with this plan. It is known from experience with red drum that a proper supply of spawn is critical, yet we disregard this lesson in this plan and encourage substantial 4.5 million pounds or more annual harvest of spawners. The plan bases the ability to do this on a new conservation standard which does not discuss escapement but rather which says that since there are many well populated older age classes in the spawning population it is o.k. to take many of these older fish. It says that the relative number of fish in all classes of adults can be reduced to a considerably lower level and still not fear that it will threaten the long term abundance and this may be right but is it a tried and a proven approach, does it err on the side of the resource, will it stand up over the long haul, does it establish a harvest level which can be sustained and which sound business activity can be based on, does it protect the Should the plan's commercial annual harvest be reached reported landings will be around 7.7 million pounds which will be up and this represents a 100 percent increase over the most recent ten year average of 3.87 million pounds. Within those ten years

are years which Dr. Clark informed the Commission of over fishing. If the ten year average is used for trout and red drum when the management regimes are established then why is it not looked at for The black drum plan as it is presently written this species. reminds Mr. Heiltzem of the proposed shark plan. It admits the need for conservation and then it recommends fishing at a level Isn't the ten year average the accepted MSY figure. Like the shark plan it also mandates a cut back on the part of recreational and then turns around and gives the fish (adults) to the harvesters. GCCA is not going to war over this fish, not yet, but they are concerned that this plan does not err on the side of the resource, may seriously impact the recreational fishery and can be quite dangerous to the resource. Concluding, Mr. Heiltzem stated that fortunately there were ninety days to make comments on this plan and make the appropriate changes and asked the Commission and department to please be cautious.

Henry Brown, commercial fishermen, addressed the Commission. Mr. Brown commented that Dr. Clark had stated that there were 8 million pounds of black drum that were harvested and this implied that there was an emergency situation but what is being proposed is an 8 million pound harvest and Mr. Brown does not see where this is an emergency. If the department is going to continue to have the 300,000 pound bull drum fishery and a 16 inch harvest of puppy drum they are back where they started from. Mr. Brown recommended that Louisiana go with the rest of the Gulf states; Alabama and Mississippi have no size limit or production limit, Florida has a 14 inch fish and Texas has a 14 inch fish. Louisiana does not need a 16 inch fish and the 14 inch fish is worth more than a bull drum and when you get into the upper class, five pound fish, it is worth twice or three times of what an adult fish is stated Mr. Brown. This information was received from the Department of Commerce this morning advised Mr. Brown and thinks the department needs to study what the economical impact of the small drum fishery is to the commercial community in the State of Louisiana.

Mr. McCall asked what a 14 inch black drum was worth. Mr. Brown stated that it would be a three pound fish and at the current market it is worth \$1.50 a pound. Dr. Hines asked Mr. Brown what a big fish was worth. Mr. Brown stated that it is according, sometimes .50 - .75 up to \$2.00 total. There was a short discussion on the value of the fish as compared to Dr. Clark's and Mr. Brown's information which differs. Dr. Clark's information was obtained from LSU which are averages over several years on thousands of fish. Mr. Brown's information was obtained from the Assessment Stock Group, 1989.

Secretary Van Sickle asked Dr. Clark if he had copies of the Black Drum Plan for the Commissioners. Dr. Clark advised that all he had was a first draft of the plan and he has not even edited it yet.

Chairman Pol advised that the Commission will vote on this Notice of Intent on Black Drum at tomorrow's meeting.

At Friday's meeting Dr. Clark presented the notice of intent on the Black Drum Management Plan for adoption and highlighted the rule for those attending the meeting. Dr. Clark advised that there are basically three principle parts which are the recreational component and two commercial components. The recreational component is a 5 fish bag limit and a 16-27 inch slot limit with 1 over the slot being acceptable. The first part of the commercial component is also the 16 - 27 slot limit with the proposed quota in the first year of 3,250,000 pounds and the second part is a commercial quota for fish over that of 300,000 fish. There is a fishing year of September 1, 1990 and every September 1 thereafter and when the commercial quotas are reached the fishery will close which will be independent of each other and managed independently. This will required the department to adopt a policy, probably the first time in the state, that has been used in the federal waters for a number of years which is an annual tack and will require review of the policy on an annual basis, looking at the biology, landings and perhaps coming back and modifying the total allowable catch that will be acceptable in each and every year. This policy has been used as a fishery management technique in the Gulf for many years by the Gulf Council. Chairman Pol asked Dr. Clark if the Commission had the authority to change this ruling once they have voted on it. Dr. Clark advised that it can be changed at the meeting when the rule is brought up for adoption. Dr. Hines believes that public input is needed from the commercial fishermen. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to adopt the notice of intent on the black drum plan. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall. Captain Vujnovich opposed the notice of intent on the black drum plan. motion passed.

(The full text of the notice of intent is made a part of the record)

Notice of Intent

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to adopt rules and regulations establishing size limits, quotas and special license requirements for the harvest of black drum.

The proposed black drum measures are as follows:

Title 76
Wildlife and Fisheries
Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

Section 311. Black Drum Size Limits, Daily Take and Possession Limits, Quotas and Special Permit Requirements.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the following rules and regulations for the taking of black drum (Pogonias cromis):

The daily take and possession limit for black drum caught recreationally within or without Louisiana waters shall be five (5) fish per day and in possession.

The minimum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be sixteen (16) inches total length.

The maximum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be twenty-seven (27) inches total length; provided however that recreational fishermen shall be allowed to take and possess one black drum per day over twenty-seven inches. It is provided further that commercial fishermen, when in possession of a "Special Black Drum Permit", shall be allowed to take and possess black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches in unlimited quantities until the annual quota has been met.

The annual commercial quota for sixteen (16) to twenty-seven (27) inch black drum shall be 3,250,000 pounds.

The annual commercial quota for black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches shall be 300,000.

The fishing year for black drum shall begin on September 1, 1990 and every September 1st thereafter.

A "Special Black Drum Permit" shall be annually required for persons commercially taking black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches and each "Special Black Drum Permit" holder shall on or before the tenth of each month make a return to the department on forms provided or approved for the purpose, the number of black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches taken commercially during the preceding month.

Once the black drum commercial quota(s) has been met; the purchase, barter, trade or sale of black drum taken in Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. The commercial taking or landing of black drum in Louisiana, whether caught within or without the territorial waters of Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. Nothing in this rule shall be deemed to prohibit the possession of fish legally taken prior to the closure order.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall, by public notice, close the commercial fishery(s) for black drum when the quota(s) has been met or is projected to be met. The closure shall not take effect for at least seventy-two (72) hours after notice to public.

Authority for adoption of this rule is contained in Sections 6(10), 326.1 and 326.3 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to: John E. Roussel, Marine Fisheries, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with 56:6(10)326.1, 326.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (
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### Warren Pol Chairman

At Thursday's meeting Dr. Jerry Clark gave an Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas. Dr. Clark reported that the last time the spotted seatrout quota was discussed a late March or early April closing date was projected which was based upon landings that did not include January because of the hard freeze and the information was not available. The department finally received the January landings and the dealer's reported 73,550 pounds which is considerably below normal. Dr. Clark pointed out that while the September landings were much greater than normal, this year has been a special year because just about every one of the months are outside the computer model. The current estimate is that sometime in late April or May the quota will be reached and the extension should not surprise anyone because of the impact of the freeze. Current landings so far in the fishing year is 840,195 pounds.

Mr. Jenkins asked Dr. Clark if January landings were the latest that he had. Dr. Clark stated "yes" and do not have any indication that the fish were more available in February or March than they were in January. Dr. Clark asked Mr. John Roussel to address the Commission on when the February landings will be received. Mr. Roussel advised that there is some preliminary data on February landings but it is not all the data and reminded the Commission that the department went to a new reporting system starting in January as mandated by the new legislation that was passed. As with all new systems there are problems in getting it going and getting everybody in line and Mr. Roussel guesses that the earliest a February figure would be received that would even resemble a final representation of what was caught would probably be about the end of April. Mr. Jenkins asked Dr. Clark what the projected

closure date would be. Dr. Clark advised that as of right now it would be late April or early May but this is based on a normal February.

Secretary Van Sickle pointed out that John Roussel and Dr. Clark made an excellent representation to the Finfish Panel last week on the Black Drum Plan. This plan does meet maximum substantial yield and it goes further than MSY. Months and months have been spent on this with twenty different scientists coming up with these particular recommendations which can be changed shifting the size of the fish, etc. As far as over fishing and being able to sustain black drum on a continuing basis is that indeed what this plan accomplished asked Secretary Van Sickle. Dr. Clark answered to the best of the biologists ability "yes" at this date with the data that they have.

Dr. Clark went on to report on the black drum harvest. The projected harvest through April 12, 1990 is 246, 858 fish which is well within the quota limits.

Chairman Pol thanked Dr. Clark for his reports and stated that Item #10, Dr. Clark's State-of-the-State Report, would be given at Friday's meeting.

At Friday's meeting Dr. Jerry Clark gave his State-of-the-State Report on Marine Pisheries, Trends in Recreational/Commercial Pishing. Dr. Clark presented this report at last months' Commission meeting held in Monroe, Louisiana which has been recorded in the March minutes of the Commission meeting. The materials presented today are basically the same materials that were presented in Monroe with the addition of increase in efforts and landings. Dr. Clark also highlighted the materials on license information that was not available at last months' meeting. The complete context of this report is also recorded on the tapes of the April Commission Meeting.

Secretary Van Sickle informed Carla Faulkner and Dawn deBore (I&E) that she would like a feature written to be distributed to all of the outdoor press about Dr. Clark's presentation.

Upon conclusion of Dr. Clark's report, Chairman Pol stated that this was a terrific report and he hopes the people look at it and realize the work that has gone into it. Chairman Pol then asked for comments and questions.

Mr. Mark Hiltzem stated that Dr. Clark was talking about the incredible escalating tuna and shark fisheries and assuming that these are basically long line fisheries, to which Dr. Clark answered they were, that several years ago legislation was passed and the federal government likewise passed some legislation through the Council process to protect billfish (bycatch) in the Atlantic, Gulf and Caribbean and just recently the activities of these

councils in the billfish plan were upheld legally. assumed that there is a rapidly escalating bycatch and kill of billfish as a result of these escalating fisheries asked Mr. Hiltzem. Dr. Clark stated that he had read the legal case that Mr. Heiltzem is referring to and as he understands it the principle case brought against this was that there was a bycatch of those billfish and since they were caught and were going to be dead those who killed them wanted to sell them. The plan prohibited this so this was the principle part of the case and the answer to Mr. Heiltzem guestion must be "yes" because this was the basis of the case stated Dr. Clark. Mr. Heiltzem commented that the theory was not to create a market because some fish do survive a long line process and we are ahead of the game in trying to conserve to put these fish back in the water. Dr. Clark agreed and advised that the bluefin tuna which is about to disappear from the Gulf is only now a bycatch fishery and everybody is out in the Gulf trying to do a bycatch on bluefin tuna. If bycatch is allowed then the fishery is allowed stated Dr. Clark. Mr. Heiltzem asked if something is able to be done under the Magnuson Act could this be controlled. Dr. Clark answered "absolutely" and made a point that one of the principle arguments against putting tunas in the act was that they are a highly migratory species and therefore if you do not kill them somebody else will. The mackerel fishery in the Gulf of Mexico is a highly migratory species but the Council went ahead and put a very restrictive set of quotas on mackerels and in each of the last three years the mackerel fishery has been improving in the Gulf of Mexico. The argument that "if we don't kill them somebody else will" does not necessarily work all the time in all places stated Dr. Clark. Secondly, Dr. Clark cannot think of a worst reason to over fish something. Mr. Heiltzem commented that the trends in the oceanic recreational fishery are frightening and asked Dr. Clark if he had explanations of those trends as a lack of effort or combination of effort and lack of availability of Dr. Clark stated that he believes that the increasing restrictions that are being placed upon recreational and commercial fishermen in the Gulf of Mexico is having a dramatic effect on the number of people in the fishery. Mr. Heiltzem asked if it would be appropriate to use Wallop-Breaux funding for something like this. Dr. Clark answered "yes".

Mr. Wilbert Collins, Oyster Fisherman, addressed the Commission and stated that he had two things he wanted to talk about and they were black drum and red drum. Mr. Collins stated that he has been an oyster fisherman for 37 years on the water and sees more drums now than he has ever seen before and when you talk about \$1.00-\$1.75 a bull drum it sounds pretty cheap but when a bull drum eats 5-6 sacks of oysters and 1-2 barrels of shrimp then it really is expensive. Mr. Collins would like to see a law put on the 14 inch but would like to see the bull drum done away with if they are not wasted. Mr. Collins went on to talk about the percentage of oysters in Louisiana and stated that from his survey of the amount of oysters harvested that most of them came from oyster farms this

year and the last three years. The amount of oysters could be doubled on the wild reefs if they were well managed.

At Friday's meeting Colonel Winton Vidrine gave the Monthly Law Enforcement Report for March. Colonel Vidrine reported the following cases:

Region I - Minden - 196
Region II - Monroe - 133
Region III - Alexandria - 233
Region IV - Ferriday - 87
Region V - Lake Charles - 320
Region VI - Opelousas - 230
Region VII - Baton Rouge - 222
Region VIII - New Orleans - 326
Region IX - Gray/Houma - 367

The offshore boats had 33 cases. The new Oyster Task Force which started doing enforcement work on the 23rd of March issued 54 citations. The total cases made for the month of March was 2,309 cases and in comparison to last year's cases (1,658) shows an increase of 651 citations issued for the month of March. The total number of cases include cases made by Wildlife Specialists from the Game Division and Fur/Refuge Division. Colonel Vidrine informed the Commission that arrangements had been made with Jefferson Parish officials (police juries) and the department was bury a little over 2 million feet of confiscated gill nets, trammel nets and 300 trawls. Chairman Pol asked if any record had been kept of what has been done with the 30-foot boat from the Atchafalaya Delta. Secretary Van Sickle advised that approval from the Division of Administration had been received earlier this week giving the department authority to transfer the position (boat captain) to the Law Enforcement Division but has not been filled The reasons it had to go through the Division of Administration was because it was in the Office of Wildlife and the position was being transferred to the Office of the Secretary which is budgetary rules. Colonel Vidrine advised that he will have to call for a Civil Service list and the plans are for putting an agent in the position and having him run the boat. Mr. Jenkins asked if there will be special qualifications for the person hired to run the boat. Colonel Vidrine answered "no". Dr. Hines asked what the fine was for fishing without a license. Colonel Vidrine advised it was \$25 - \$125, Class 1 violation. Dr. Hines stated that over a fourth of the citations were fishing without a license and cane poles (\$5 fine) should be \$25. Secretary Van Sickle advised that one thing that is being learned from the disposition reports from District Attorney offices is that a lot of the people are never brought to court when there is only a \$25 fine. are more serious crimes and the officials will not send anyone out to pick up the person with the \$25 fine. The department will be meeting with the District Attorney's Association next week and some of them are advising the department that they pick up driver's licenses.

Mr. Jones asked about turkey hunting and if it was legal to carry a .22 pistol while turkey hunting. Colonel Vidrine advised that it was legal as long as the pistol was not used to take the turkey.

Captain Vujnovich thanked Colonel Vidrine for the wonderful job that the Oyster Strike Force has been doing which will benefit the Louisiana oyster industry. The industry will have a much better FDA rating with the strike force in place. Colonel Vidrine announced that a new pilot has been hired and will be stationed out of New Iberia starting this Monday morning. Secretary Van Sickle announced that the new pilot is 100% law enforcement and Gene Rackle, another pilot, will continue to fly for enforcement.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Hugh Bateman presented a Resolution and Notice of Intent for the Proposed Resident Game Hunting Regulations, 1990. Mr. Bateman explained the contents of the packet of information that had been given to each Commissioners on the hunting recommendations. The Game Division developed a set of recommendations which were presented to the Hunting Regulations Committee. The committee consisted of Bert Jones, Don Hines, Jimmy Jenkins with Chairman Warren sitting in. Mr. McCall is a member also but was unable to attend the meeting on March 23, 1990 which was held at the Baton Rouge Headquarters. The proposal being presented represents what the committee developed as suggestions in concert with what the department staff provided the committee at the meeting. The department staff and the committee also worked on options, suggestions and changes at the March meeting which mostly involved the deer and turkey hunting seasons. Mr. Bateman proceeded to give the recommendations for the 1991 season and the summary of changes.

In the hunting pamphlet for this year an explanation of the provisions for the civil penalties will be given. This is a new rule that the department has in place where there will be a civil penalty asset for various animals. All small game seasons will be basically only a calendar change from last year with the exception of the squirrel season which will be extended to January 27. A brand new season has been recommended in a small area in southwest Louisiana, where there will be an experimental pheasant season which has resulted from stocking efforts over the last several years.

Mr. Bateman went over the season dates and changes for 1990-91 deer hunting. Area I - Nov. 10-25 (16 days still hunting only); Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloaders only); Dec. 8-Jan. 13 (With or without dogs). This season was lengthened from 56 days to 60 days with 7 days added to the still hunt only segment, 3 days removed from the segment with or without dogs. Area II - Nov. 3-30 (28 days still hunting only); Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloaders only); Dec. 8-Jan. 1 (25)

days with or without dogs). This season was lengthened from 56 days to 60 days with 5 days added to the still hunt only segment, 1 day removed from the segment with or without dogs. In conjunction with Areas II and III season dates a fairly dramatic change over 600,000 acres of public lands in Kisatchie National Forest has been recommended which shortens the deer season and the dates would be Nov. 3-11 and Nov. 23-25 giving 12 total days of still hunting. The muzzleloader season would be Dec. 1-2 giving 2 days of muzzleloader. Dec. 8-9 and Dec. 26-30 giving 7 days with or without dogs. Total season length on the Kisatchie National Forest of 21 days is a reduction of 35 days from the year before.

There has been a increase in the number of either sex hunting days from 8 to 13 in District I in northwest Louisiana for Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, Desoto, Red River and Webster Parishes.

Area III - Dates identical to Area II and still hunting only. Season was lengthened from 56 days to 60 days with 5 additional days for the first segment, 1 day removed from the third segment and either sex days are only a calendar date change from last year.

Areas IV, V - Remains unchanged except for calendar date changes from last year. West Carroll Parish in Area IV is a special short season that was requested because of the lost of woodlands. Hunting season dates for Area V in West Carroll Parish would be Nov. 17-25, Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader only). This would be 9 days of still hunting for guns and 7 days of still hunting for muzzleloaders. Area V, the season dates would be Nov. 17-25 (9 days of still hunting); Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader only); Dec. 8-Jan. 6 (still hunting only).

Mr. Bateman summarized the turkey season. Area A turkey season dates or calendar date changes from last season. The parishes of Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, Desoto, Red River, Webster and portions of Lincoln and Avoyelles were combined to form a new Area D with a short 16 day, three weekend, April 13-28 season. These areas have previously been closed to turkey hunting but due to a successful restoration efforts by the department, sportsmen, public landowners, corporate landowners, LA Wild Turkey Federation, etc. there will be a season in 1991. Other season dates for turkey are: Area A - 30 day season, Mar. 30-April 28, 1991; Area B - 37 day season, Mar. 23-April 28, 1991 - change from last year and represents a one week later season opening in those particular parishes in southeast Louisiana; Area C - 9 day season, April 20-28, 1991; Area D - April 13-28, 1989, 16 days.

Upon presenting the main changes in the deer hunting seasons and the turkey hunting seasons, Mr. Bateman asked Mr. Tommy Prickett to go over the Wildlife Management Areas (WMA's) changes.

Mr. Prickett commented that the Commission was aware that the department manages 40 WMA's that encompass almost a million acres. Some of the changes on the WMA's this year are: Implement selfclearing turkey permit stations on some WMA's this year. They will be operated so that when a hunter comes in the morning he will receive a permit and as he leaves the area in the afternoon he will write down the information that is requested, thus enabling the department to know how many people are using the areas and how many turkeys are taken; there is one new WMA's this year, Little River WMA, in Grant Parish which is about 3,000 acres and seasons will be set on this area for the first time; lack of daily check-in, check-out deer hunts on a majority of WMA's. This year the department is going to go to self-clearing hunts or no check-in hunts on the WMA's. At least once every three years an attempt will be made to run a check-in, check-out hunt on WMA's for deer hunting. This year for the first time on Thanksgiving weekend the department will not be checking hunters in and out on the WMA's. The other seasons, youth hunts, muzzleloader hunts, special hunts for squirrel, rabbit and raccoon will be handled much the same as they were last year advised Mr. Prickett.

Dr. Hines asked about the muzzleloader season just being December 1-2 whereas last year it was for 7 days but was not mentioned on the change. Mr. Prickett commented that on most of the areas this year the District supervisors recommendation a two day, either sex season which would be the first weekend. This would be compatible with what the department is recommending on the National Forest There was not that much participation on the WMA's for the muzleloader hunts last year but if the participation increases in the future Mr. Prickett thinks the district supervisor will change this recommendation. The department believes this will satisfy the needs for muzzleloader hunting on the WMA's. Dr. Hines asked that since there will be no check-in stations during the regular season what difference would it make to open it for the 7 days if there is not a lot of participation, this would give a few people a few Mr. Prickett stated that this could certainly be days to hunt. done and department people will be out there to enforce the game laws during the additional days but does not know the effect it will have on the other seasons that are proposed on the WMA's. This can be check out. Dr. Hines asked that this be checked out and see if there would be undue hardship on the staff by keeping it opened the whole week.

Mr. Bateman asked Mr. Larry Soileau to address the Commission on federal agencies and federal lands. Mr. Soileau reported as part of the Kisatchie National Forest there are two management areas that are managed by the U.S. Forest Service which are Catahoula National Wildlife Preserve and Red Dirt. Staffs from the Service and department have met and are recommending 5 days of either sex on the two preserves with a youth hunt and a muzzleloading hunt. This is basically the same seasons they have had in past years. There are three other special areas which are the Louisiana Army

Ammo Plant at Minden, Barksdale Air Force Base at Bossier City and Avery Island that have special seasons where these seasons have been in force for a number of years and there are no changes Soileau pointed out that Mr. included in the Commissioner's packet was a letter from Jim Pulliam dated March 30, 1990, which outlines a request for hunting programs on eight refuges located in Louisiana and these have been developed mutually by the staff of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. The Commission's action will cover these items concluded Mr. Soileau. Dr. Hines asked if the letter from Mr. Pulliam is requesting that steel shot be used for squirrel hunting. Mr. Soileau advised that this is not proposed for this year but if the Commissioners will notice in the second paragraph of the letter that the states have been put on notice that in those areas that have wetlands that are hunted for waterfowl that possibly next year this can be expected and squirrel hunters and rabbit hunters hunters in wetlands will be required to use steel shot.

"Cotton" Fairchild, former Commission member, addressed the Commission and asked Mr. Bateman what the dates were that the staff recommended for deer hunting. Mr. Bateman stated that they recommended a calendar date change from last year. Mr. Fairchild out that these dates were Nov. 17-25, Dec. (Muzzleloader) and Dec. 8-Jan. 16. Mr. Fairchild asked Mr. Bateman about the turkey season. Mr. Bateman stated he thought there was one recommended change in the Florida parishes for a one week later season other than the new areas that opened so the seasons were basically the same as last year. Mr. Fairchild pointed out that these dates were March 16 - April 21 which is 37 days and proceeded to give a history of how turkeys were stocked in his area. Fairchild recommended that the Commission follow the advice of the department biologists on the setting of the seasons. Mr. Fairchild went on to discuss the black bear. In 1965 the LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries went to Minnesota to transport bear back to Louisiana. There were 161 bear brought back to Louisiana and 131 bear were put into the Atchafalaya Basin and 30 were turned out in In 1973 the high water dispersed the bear in Madison and Tensas. the basin. Mr. Fairchild advised that right now there are plenty of bear and if the bear is put on the endangered species then landowners will be told what they can and cannot do with and on their lands. The bears that are over there now are Minnesota bears and not Louisiana bears concluded Mr. Fairchild.

Mr. John Barton addressed the commission and commended the department on the biologists that it has working for them. Louisiana has not touched the potential of its ability to produce game and/or fish stated Mr. Barton. Mr. Barton recommended to the Commission that without any questions that Louisiana does its very best to continue to attract the capable people that are in the department and then to follow their recommendations until such time that it can be proven otherwise or in fact unless it can be shown

to the biologists that what they are recommending is not for the best interest of all concern. Mr. Barton also recommended to the Commission that the date recommendations, game takings, etc. by the biologists be followed. Mr. Barton went on to ask why are the gun people denied a whole week while the muzzleloaders have the opportunity to shoot. Why can't muzzleloaders be shot the same time the rifles are shot and Mr. Barton would like the Commission to consider this.

Mr. J. L. Schillings, President, Livingston Parish Police Jury addressed the Commission on the dog season. At a recent Police Jury Convention a resolution was passed asking the Commission to reinstate the 47 days with or without dogs in the State of Louisiana. Mr. Schillings asked the Commission if their resolution meant anything, if the public hearings meant anything and the fact that dog hunters outnumber the still hunters. The dog hunters are still getting cut and soon it will not be feasible to own dogs stated Mr. Schillings. Mr. Schillings pointed out that he hunts in the basin and from Highway 1 to the Interstate there is one still hunting club in that area that hunts on 1,800 acres of land that they lease from his hunting club and the rest of the clubs dog hunt. Why does the department have to penalize the dog hunters for that one still hunting club asked Mr. Schillings and why can't the dog hunters have their 47 days like they had asked for? Schillings asked the Commission and department to take this into consideration before they set the seasons.

Mr. David Ellison, Sunset, Louisiana, addressed the Commission. Mr. Ellison stated that he would briefly like to echo something that Mr. Barton had said. The turkey season over at Lottie always started on the second Saturday in March and now it has moved up and will be moved up again stated Mr. Ellison. Mr. Ellison asked the Commission to ask Mr. Bateman and his biologists to see if there is any biological support that the breeding season and the hunting season should commence a little earlier and would appreciate it if the Commission would consider deferring their decision on the season until a report can be made by the biologists.

Mr. Dick Smith, Louisiana Dog Hunters Association, addressed the Commission. Mr. Smith asked about the Kisatchie National Forest deer season and if the department planned to reopen this area in two years, if the deer herd comes back, to coincide with the areas on the outside. Mr. Soileau explained that he doubted that the long bucks only season will be reinstated and the long range plan is to manage this 600,000 acres of public lands more like the 900,000 acres of public land in the wildlife management area program. The difference between private lands that are leased and controlled by clubs is that the hunting pressure is controlled by the members of the club while on public lands there is no control of the hunting other than the season length and the bag limit and for this reason Mr. Soileau would suspect that it is doubtful that

the season on Kisatchie will be lengthened much beyond than what has been proposed.

Mr. Smith went on to advise that most of the big companies require that their employees post their vacations by March 1 and the hunters never know exactly when the dates will be set for deer season. The deer populations have move to the point where the seasons should be consistent every year unless something drastic occurs stated Mr. Smith and he would like to see the deer season set up a year in advance.

Mr. Ray Lenew, President of Southern Louisiana's Dog Hunters Association, addressed the Commission. Mr. Lenew stated that the survey that was done this year supposedly shows that dog season is very unpopular in the state and that still hunting is very popular and this is part of the reason why dog days are being lost this year. The Police Jury Association has passed a resolution to not only not cut the dog season but also increase it this year. this is such a big problem then why do the policy juries and parish seats vote to not only not cut dog season but to increase it asked When the public hearings were held the still hunters were outnumbered, in some cases, 4-1 and if they were that interested in increasing the still season where were they asked Mr. Lenew. The way that things are going there will be no dog hunting of any type in the future stated Mr. Lenew and asked the Commission to please consider the parish resolutions, the public hearings, etc. when dealing with this issue.

Chairman Pol stated that he personally has received over 400 letters from still hunters so when it is said that the still hunters were not in attendance at the meetings it does not mean that they have not been heard from. Chairman Pol commented that he doesn't see where the dog hunters were cut that much and whereas if the survey would have been followed in setting the dog season it would have been cut much more and this was not done to hurt the dog hunter.

Mr. Rip Miller, Baton Rouge Businessman, landowner in Louisiana and Mississippi, addressed the Commission for the non-vocal still hunters and landowners. Mr. Miller stated that he says non-vocal is because most of the time the reason you do not hear from the still hunters and the landowners is due to fear of the dog hunters. Mr. Miller has personally been vandalized and has had problems. People will not go to a meeting because of fear but they will write letters and this is where the letters are coming from advised Mr. Miller. Hunting with dogs is an old tradition in Louisiana and Mr. Miller stated that he use to hunt with dogs and respects a man's right to do so. Mr. Miller proposed that the number of dog days be cut and give the still hunters a little more time to hunt undisturbed. The still hunters should have an equal number of hunting days and Mr. Miller asked that the survey be followed or conduct another one to make sure it is adequate, appropriate and

actually shows the feelings of the majority of the hunters in the state who are afraid to come and speak to a group such as this one.

Mr. Charles Womack, Louisiana Dog Hunting Association, addressed the Commission. Mr. Womack stated that at this time he does not have any problem with the recommendations but does have some questions that he would like to ask Mr. Bateman about Kisatchie. When the hunting days are taken away from an area like Kisatchie where will the hunting pressure go and what does it do with the surrounding areas asked Mr. Womack. Mr. Bateman asked Mr. Soileau to address the question. Mr. Soileau stated that it is felt like the Kisatchie National Forest is public lands and those hunters cannot be displaced from public lands onto private lands, which are leased lands, so it is felt like those leased lands are not going to be dramatically impacted. Mr. Womack asked then where will the hunters that normally go to Kisatchie to hunt go. Mr. Soileau advised that they are going to continue to hunt on public lands if they do not have leases of their own but will hunt over a shorter period of time.

Mr. Danny Lazarus addressed the Commission and stated that he had heard from each of the Commission members about the 400 letters and apparently each of the Commission members received the same 400 letters. Chairman Pol stated that he really did not know if they were the same letter. Mr. Lazarus advised that last year the dog hunters of the state presented the Commission with a petition with several thousands signatures and just as easily could have gotten them to sign a form letter like the Commissioners received from the Chairman Pol advised that all he wanted to do was still hunters. just to make a point that the still hunters had been heard from. Mr. Lazarus stated that he understood and he just wanted to make it clear that last year the letters were sent from the dog hunters and they did not do any good. The Commissioners could have gotten a lot of letters this year from dog hunters but it was stopped because it was felt like the Commissioners did not need to be bothered with the letters and they knew what was going on with dog hunting and still hunting. Mr. Lazarus stated that next year may be a different story if the letters are going to account for that much.

Mr. Rodney Calvin, Arcadia, Louisiana, addressed the Commission and asked about the survey. There are forty three members of his club in Northwest Lincoln Parish and only one member received the survey and Mr. Calvin was wondering why no one else received one. Mr. Soileau responded to the question and advised that there were 178,000 big game licenses sampled at 5 percent which means that one out of every 20 hunters who purchased a license during that year was likely to receive a survey card and by chance out of 43 hunters only 1 received it instead of the sampling rate of 2. The sample design was done by the Department of Experimental Statistics at LSU and Dr. Vernon Wright has sent letters asking any one who challenges his survey to send it to a competent referee. Dr.

Wright is very confident that the results of the survey will stand critical examination. Mr. Calvin asked the Commission to please do not take away their heritage on dog hunting.

Mr. Elton Leech addressed the Commission and asked if they would consider redesigning the big game license and put a question on the bottom of it which says do you want to hunt with or without dogs. Mr. Bateman responded to the question and stated that he would like to lay the questionnaire issue to rest once and for all. Soileau just advised that the department had the very best statistical people in this state at the university design this The department did not design the survey which was a recommendation that came from the Deer Task Force and anyone who has a problem with the survey needs to address it to LSU and not to the department advised Mr. Bateman. This is the second survey that has been done in about 5 or 6 years and the results of both surveys came out almost exactly the same. The department is confident that the survey was done properly, it reflects adequately and accurately what the feelings of most people that hunt in Louisiana are regarding the use of dogs and this is simply another tool to consider in making decisions commented Mr. Bateman. seems to be the stigma among both sides of the dog issue that this is primarily biological which is not true. This problem is social and a criminal trespass type thing and this is part of the biggest problems that Louisiana has. The biggest biological problem with the use of dogs in Louisiana has nothing to do with the fall and winter hunting, it has to do with the fact that because of existing state law there are two things done. One is that people are allowed to go on private property and retrieve dogs and the other statute gives you very, very week trespass control. The training of hunting dogs year around is also allowed in Louisiana and the people need to get away from the confusion about where the biological issues are in the state regarding deer management stated Mr. Leech continued and stated that he thought the Mr. Bateman. recommendation that the muzzleloaders hunt with the rest of the still hunters is a good idea and maybe gives a better break to the still hunter.

Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Bateman why weren't the muzzleloader put in with the other hunting days. Mr. Bateman commented that the state statutes regarding the muzzleloader require that you set special muzzleloader only seasons and it even specifies the amount for the license. A recommendation was made last year that the muzzleloader season be put in between the two gun seasons where it would be less disruptive for either activity that had been going on during those two segments. This change was not implemented and the Commission and the Assistant Secretary, Office of Wildlife, made the decision at that time that a weekend be tacked on to the muzzleloader season because of the fact that \$10.50 was being charged for the license and they did not feel that five weekdays were enough. The biologists do not think that the muzzleloaders should have a opportunity to shoot deer prior to the time that the 180,000 other

hunters get a chance to get into the woods, therefore an early season is unwise stated Mr. Bateman. Another option would have been to put the muzzleloader season at the end of the gun season which was discussed at two staff meetings, but the recommendation was made that the season stay where it was. Mr. Jenkins asked if this particular season and its setting is a staff recommendation. Mr. Bateman answered "yes". Chairman Pol asked how many muzzleloader licenses were sold last year. Ms. Bettsie Baker advised that there is not a total count yet but somewhere between 6,000 - 8,000 licenses probably. Mr. Bateman stated that the estimate Ms. Barker just gave is probably right.

Mr. John Barton addressed the Commission and made a suggestion for the Commission's consideration. Mr. Barton stated that one thing that has not been talked about when talking about dogs or still hunting is terrain. All of the terrain in Louisiana is not the same and in Mr. Barton's opinion there are such areas in Louisiana as the Atchafalaya River and Atchafalaya bottoms where dog hunting does not disturb anybody. Mr. Barton was raised on this kind of hunting in these kinds of areas and he loves it. On the other hand Mr. Barton has tried and is presently trying to conserve game in East Feliciana Parish on property that he owns and he will vote for that area, the reason being still hunting only in unfortunately the hunters do not do all the right things. This is not so in the Atchafalaya River bottoms nor is it so in the lake swamps and other areas of Louisiana where Mr. Barton thinks if you are careful and if studied properly there can be an in between solution that will let both sides live.

Chairman Pol asked Mr. Bateman when did the time expire to act on the resolution and notice of intent pertaining to the hunting seasons. Mr. Bateman stated that the APA requires that action needs to be taken by the 10th of this month and if this is not done it will put the Commission and department into a situation where this rule will not be ratified until July instead of the June meeting which will back up the pamphlets that need to be printed and distributed.

A gentleman from the audience asked Mr. Bateman what were the biologists reasons for changing the deer season to January 13 from January 20. Mr. Bateman answered that there are two things in Louisiana that he and his staff has tried to work on since 1985. One is to shorten the overall length of the deer season and the other was to have less bucks only days and more either sex days. The reason that the season does not run to the 20th is because you would have 63 days of deer hunting and how much is enough asked Mr. Bateman. The gentleman from the audience proposed to the Commission that they go to the maximum days of January 20 instead of shortening it to January 13. The gentleman asked why was 3 days taken from the dog season and given to the still hunters. Mr. Bateman answered that this addressed the survey and that is the reason it changed.

Mr. David Brazelle, Lincoln Parish, Carvette Community, addressed the Commission. Mr. Brazelle is a dog hunter and he has no fight or no arguments with the still hunters and he does not think people should be getting up at the meeting and fussing back and forth on the still hunter versus the dog hunter. Everybody should work together. Where he is from dog hunting is a community affair and they feel like it is their heritage, privilege and right to dog hunt.

Mr. Barton suggested that since Louisiana has far more deer in the state than they have had for many years that the season be extended to the end of the allowed time and maybe not open it as early.

At Thurday's meeting Chairman Pol called for a motion for adjournment. Mr. Jenkins made a motion that the Thursday, April 5, 1990 Commission meeting adjourn and reconvene at 9 a.m. Friday, April 6, 1990. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed unanimously.

At Friday's meeting Mr. Bateman presented a notice of intent on the resident game hunting regulations for 1990-91 to the Commission for approval and asked for any changes that the board would like Chairman Pol asked Mr. Jones, Chairman of the Hunting Regulations Committee, if there would be any recommended changes. Mr. Jones stated that he does not have any recommended changes. Dr. Hines asked if there were no problems he would like to suggest that the muzzleloader season for the wildlife management areas be Mr. Bateman urged Dr. Hines that he opened for the whole week. change the muzzleloader recommendation on the wildlife management areas. Dr. Hines asked "why". Mr. Bateman advised that the staff personnel felt very strongly that there was very poor participation during the week and it tied up personnel doing an unnecessary job. The season recommended is completely adequate and commensurate with the other recommendations on the short seasons explained Mr. Bateman. After a short discussion between Hines and Mr. Bateman, Dr. Hines made a motion that muzzleloader season on the wildlife management areas run concurrent with the outside season and change it from 2 days to 7 days. (Several black powder clubs have approached Dr. Hines with this request). Mr. Jenkins seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Bateman asked for any other requests for changes Chairman Pol asked if anyone in the from the Commissioners. audience would like to make a public comment. There being none Mr. Jones made a motion that the resolution/notice of intent be The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed adopted. unanimously.

Chairman Pol asked when the printing of the hunting pamphlets would be authorized. Mr. Bateman advised this is usually done after the Legislative Session in mid-July. If the ratification of the hunting seasons rule is done in June hopefully by mid-August the pamphlet will be out commented Mr. Bateman.

(The full text of the resolution is made a part of the record)

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES April 5, 1990

#### RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for resident game birds and quadrupeds, and
- WHEREAS, authority to establish seasons, bag limits, possession limits and other rules and regulations for the hunting, taking and possession of any species of wild game birds or quadrupeds is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:115, and
- WHEREAS, this action will provide for the protection and conservation of these natural resources and allow for recreational opportunities for sport hunting on both public and private lands, and
- WHEREAS, the Commission and Department staff have jointly reviewed and considered all available biological information and requests from sportsmen of the state, now
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rule, regulations, season dates, and bag limits affecting sport hunting of resident game species are hereby adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

Warren Pol, Chairman LA Wildlife and Fisheries Fisheries Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary LA Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries

(The full text of the notice of intent is made a part of the record)

### NOTICE OF INTENT

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to promulgate rules and regulations governing the hunting of resident game birds and game quadrupeds. A synopsis of said rule is attached to and made part of this notice of intent. (A more detailed copy of the rule is available upon request from the address listed below).

Public hearing will be held at regularly scheduled Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission meeting in May and June. Additionally, interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed rule until May 31, 1990 to Hugh A. Bateman, Administrator, Game Division, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898.

CITATION: None - Changes Annually

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115
HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16:

> Warren Pol Chairman

### SUMMARY OF 1990-91 HUNTING SEASON REGULATION

Quail: Nov. 22-Feb. 28 - Daily Bag Limit 10, Possession 20 Rabbit: Oct. 6-Feb. 28 - Daily Bag Limit 8, Possession 16 Squirrel: Oct. 6-Jan. 27, Daily Bag Limit 8, Possession 16 Deer: One per day, 6 per season

Area 1 - 60 days

16 days still hunting only
7 days still hunting only
37 days with or without dogs
Nov. 10-25
Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader)
Dec. 8-Jan. 13

Area 2 - 60 days

28 days still hunting only 7 days still hunting only Nov. 3-30

Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader) 25 days with or without dogs Dec. 1-7 (Muz: Dec. 8-Jan. 1

**Are**a 3 - 60 days

28 days still hunting only
7 days still hunting only
25 days still hunting only
Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader)
Dec. 8-Jan 1

Area 4 - 46 days

Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader)

9 days still hunting only Nov. 17-25 7 days still hunting only Dec. 1-7 (Nov. 17-25) 30 days still hunting only Dec. 8-Jan. Dec. 8-Jan. 6

Area 5- 16 days

9 days still hunting only Nov. 17-25

Turkey - One per day, 3 per season

Area A - 30 days. March 30-April 28 Area B - 37 days. March 23-April 28 Area C - 9 days. April 20-April 28 Area D - 16 days. April 13-April 28

At Friday's meeting the Date for the Joint Commission Meeting With Texas Parks and Wildlife was set. Secretary Van Sickle stated that a letter has been received from Mr. Charles Travis, Director, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and out of the two alternatives dates that Louisiana suggested they chose the week of July 16-20 and would like for Louisiana to pick two days within that week which would best suit the Commissioners. The dates chosen were July 19-20, 1990 and Chairman Pol asked Secretary Van Sickle to talk with the Texas people and see if those dates were acceptable.

At Friday's meeting the **Dates for the June and July Commission Meetings** were set. The June Commission dates were set for June 7-8, 1990, to be held in Baton Rouge at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building on Quail Drive. The July Commission dates were set for July 5-6, 1990, to be held in Baton Rouge at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building on Quail Drive.

At Friday's meeting the **Secretary's Report** was given by Secretary Van Sickle. Secretary Van Sickle explained what the SEAMAP Committee did to promote the investment in fisheries data collection. Louisiana is the most active state in the SEAMAP Program which is the collection of fishery independent data. A brochure was published which is used to try and get support for putting more dollars into the fishery data collection program. The amount of dollars that is being put into fishery data collection per species managed is increasing inversely proportionally with the amount of management that is being done. All states have recognized the problem but still have not been able to get the National Marine Fisheries Service or the Congress to appropriate the funds for monitoring fish recreational or commercial.

The New Orleans properties (properties next to K. Paul restaurant and the parking garage) will go up for sale on April 19, 1990 at 12 noon. The Times-Picayune has been contacted about writing an article on this which would help with the publicity and possibly have more people bidding on the properties. This will be a public auction and the minimum bids established by the Commission at the Monroe meeting will be used.

In the Governor's Executive Budget a cover letter was written transmitting the budget to the appropriate legislative committees.

In the letter the Governor mentions the dedication of 20 million dollars for land acquisition.

The budget that the department has proposed is basically at a standstill at this point stated Secretary Van Sickle. first time ever the Governor's Office is proposing that the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries receive general fund dollars to accomplish its mission of managing fish and wildlife. department is not looking at anymore layoffs but if the Governor had not come forward and given the department 4.5 million dollars in general fund monies there would have been layoffs. The Governor has put into the budget 3.37 million dollars in general fund for basically operational needs of the department and of that 1.9 million dollars will be dedicated to the new radio system and 1.5 million will be used to fund the Aquatic Plant Section. roughly 40 people in th Aquatic Section and about a half of million dollars worth of chemicals are used to spray water hyacinths and submerged aquatic plants on an annual basis. Secretary Van Sickle thinks the department has been treated very fairly in the budget process. This is still preliminary and it will have to go through the Budget Committee and approved by the Legislature.

There are 10 new positions in the budget. The 4 for the Alligator Program are being funded by the alligator tags. An Alligator Coordinator was hired this morning advised Secretary Van Sickle and he is Buddy Goatcher. Mr. Goatcher will start work on the 23rd of this month and will in turn assist in picking personnel that will be at Rockefeller, north Louisiana and southeast Louisiana. There are almost 100 alligator farms with 200,000 alligators in Louisiana.

There are 4 new positions in the Law Enforcement Division for the Oyster Strike Force. These positions are funded 100% by the Oyster Industry through the new Oyster Harvester's License. This strike force will make a big difference in the oyster industry in Louisiana.

Two new positions have been shifted that will be new and funded out of the Conservation Fund. These positions will be working with the Louisiana Conservation television program.

At the next monthly meeting or at the June meeting Secretary Van Sickle advised that they would like to have a quarterly budget report and asked the Commissioners if they wanted to have a full Budget Committee meeting or just a briefing. Chairman Pol advised that Mr. Jenkins is the Chairman of the Budget Committee and recommended that he be given a report and in turn he can report at the commission meeting. Secretary Van Sickle asked Mr. Jenkins when he wanted to have the Budget Meeting. Mr. Jenkins advised that the meeting will be held in June. Ms. Bettsie Baker will handle this for the Commission.

A couple of existing positions that were shifted are a new law enforcement pilot who will be working out of New Iberia, a vacancy has been shifted to the Scenic Rivers Program with interviews next Thursday for a Scenic Rivers Program Coordinator. Mr. Jenkins asked Secretary Van Sickle if she could tap the general fund for scenic rivers money in light of the fact that it is not totally wildlife and fisheries. Secretary Van Sickle stated yes and it is part of the mission to take care of the rivers.

The Oyster Task Force has requested basically a 15-minute slot on the May or June agenda to talk about some of their concerns. The department meets with the task force basically at a monthly routine scheduled meeting and they would like to speak with the Commission. Chairman Pol stated that this meeting should be in June for the simple reason that the shrimp meeting will be taking place in New Orleans at the May meeting.

Secretary Van Sickle stated that some of the Shrimp Task Force recommendations should go to the Governor's office and will be transmitted to the appropriate parties.

The Finfish Panel had a meeting last week and went through the Black Drum Management Plan with only one member of the panel not supporting it. The Finfish Panel, however, wanted to know if they should continue to meet, what was their charge, etc. Van Sickle advised that the Finfish Panel original charge was two One was to help the department draft a Finfish Policy for the state that would insure both consistency in how the fishery is managed and fairness. Two, the panel was suppose to serve as sounding board for the department, staff and commission in the setting of regulations so that both recreational and commercial fishing interests would have a voice in the fishery policy. that the black drum has been done the panel was wondering if they should continue to meet. Secretary Van Sickle advised the Commission of what had been decided. It was decided that the panel continue to exist and still serve as a sounding board for fishery management plans that will be developed but will not meet on a monthly basis. The next fishery management plan will probably be on mullet stated Secretary Van Sickle and the Finfish Panel Will not meet again until there is draft management plans on these fish. This coming year they will be looking at management plans for mullet, red drum, speckled trout and sand trout at a minimum. These four plans will be completed in the next 12 months. Finfish Panel has finalized their recommendations to the department on a finfish policy (a way that they proposed the finfish be managed for the state of Louisiana) which the staff is looking at and Dr. Clark has specifically been working with Mr. Chuck Wilson, Mr. John Roussel and the rest of the panel on some ideas for modification, etc. In June Secretary Van Sickle would like to bring it before the Commission for promulgation.

September 9-12, 1990, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will host the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies meeting in New Orleans and would like to have a reception with the Commissioners involved with the rest of the Commissioners and State Directors from around the country. Information will be sent out on this.

Next Thursday the House and Senate Natural Resources Committee will be asked to adopt the Coastal Restoration Plan. The committees did reject the plan last week and basically what happened was the landowners, oil and gas interests, and the Louisiana Chemical Association lobbied hard enough to convince the committee that this plan might prevent future development on the coast and they wanted to make sure that there was some language in the plan that would allow a balancing of economic interest versus the protection of the It is getting down to the point of an issue called "no net The whole issue is that mitigation must be required for Currently, if an oil every activity that damages the coast. company has a canal that destroys 60 acres of wetland they are required to do mitigation which they are doing now but the companies do not want this formalized in the policy part of the plan advised Secretary Van Sickle. Chairman Pol stated that the consensus is that they will accept the policy.

Secretary Van Sickle concluded her report with a discussion on the long-range plan for the department. The department has been in the process of developing a long-range plan which began in March 1989 with the divisions sitting down and sorting out some of their priorities and their feelings about what the mission of the department was. A document has been developed that is the start of the department's long-range plan and the staff has basically come up with a mission that should control or have influence on everything that is done in the department. The mission is: Department of Wildlife and Fisheries mission is to manage and conserve Louisiana's renewable fish and wildlife resources and supporting habitats through replenishment, protection, enhancement, research, development, education and wise use". philosophy that has been developed by the staff is "Louisiana's renewable fish and wildlife resources and the habitats that support them are vital to the quality of life and the environmental and economic well being of the citizens of this state and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will serve as chief public advocate and stewart to ensure that these resources are available for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations". The visions for the department are very ambitious They are: "The department will be responsive to and three fold. the needs of the citizens of the state of Louisiana and to its employees by continuously evaluating and improving its efforts. The department will be a recognized leading agency in Wildlife and fisheries conservation development and management and will be the best agency in the state because it will be a team built on mutual trust and respect". Secretary Van Sickle stated that if you don't

buy in on the first three pages of the plan you should not be working for the department. Continuing Secretary Van Sickle listed how to accomplish the visions through long-range planing. 1) Make decisions based upon scientific facts and statistical data and methods. 2) Continuously acquire, protect, and manage unique habitat. 3) Be a prime promoter of the state's outdoor recreational opportunities. 4) Be a prime promoter of the state's seafood, fur, and alligator industry. 5) Maximize commercial and recreational benefits to the state from its fish and wildlife 6) Spend the money where the priorities are set. resources. budget priorities and set financial and allocations accordingly. Secretary Van Sickle advised that this will be accomplished by implementing it down to the last individual member that works for the department and get them involved. department plans to do this through the development of operational plans. Secretary Van Sickle stated that based upon the mission of each wildlife program, each education program and the enforcement division an operational plan will be developed each This will ultimately translate to the job assignment for every individual who works for the department so that their daily operations tie into not just the long-range plan but operational plan for the department which ties into the mission and philosophy of what the department is suppose to be doing. Secretary Van Sickle explained how this will be accomplished. There will be a performance plan and review for every individual who works for the department including the Assistant Secretary. On an annual basis work assignments will be set forward. On an quarterly basis the supervisor will meet with the employee and basically review his performance to date. About 80 supervisors have been sent through management training. On an annual basis this performance evaluation will be reviewed formally and go into the personnel file of each individual who works for the department. By May 1 the operational plans will be completed and by July 1 the performance and evaluation will be set in the personnel files for everybody who works for wildlife and fisheries. This is a first for the department, the states of Mississippi, Arizona, California, etc. are going through a long-range plan right now advised Secretary Van Sickle.

Mr. Jenkins asked Secretary Van Sickle to give an update on the District Attorney's disposition reports. Secretary Van Sickle asked Mr. Kell McInnis to address this. Mr. McInnis updated the Commission on where the department stands with the D.A.'s There are 41 of the Association and the disposition report. providing the formatted attorneys responding and There are 23 that have not disposition report that was requested. complied with the department's request. During the last several weeks, Secretary Van Sickle and Mr. Puckett had the opportunity to meet with the D.A.'s Association at their annual meeting in Monroe. A sub-committee has been appointed to work with the department to further modify the report and make it simpler and easier to comply with which will provide a more clear and precise report in the future. Next Thursday a meeting has been scheduled in Thibodaux, Louisiana, with the sub-committee and additional compliance is expected along with a better idea of how to formate the report so that it can be sent out for the next quarter. The next set of documents will be going out to the D.A.'s will be subsequent to the meeting next week. Secretary Van Sickle asked if all but 15 D.A.'s have responded. Mr. McInnis pointed out these were parishes and not district attorneys and may be somewhat confusing. Parishes are grouped and represent 1 district attorney so in categories it looks like all but 15 have responded stated Secretary Van Sickle.

At Firday's meeting Chairman Pol at this point asked that the record show that Captain Pete Vujnovich joined the meeting. The record acknowledges this. Chairman Pol asked Secretary Van Sickle to have complied for him for the last 12 months, including this meeting, the attendance record of Mr. Joe Palmisano. Chairman Pol asked for further business to come before the meeting.

Ms. Connie Glockner, President, Northshore Chapter, Concerned Crabbers of Louisiana, Inc., addressed the Commission. Ms. Glockner made the following statement: "As President of the North Shore Chapter of Concerned Crabbers of Louisiana I'm presenting you with petitions requesting that your Department extend the one mile prohibition on shell dredging in Lake Pontchartrain to a three mile prohibition. These petitions were circulated in St. Tammany and Tangipahoa parishes and contains 8,744 names of concerned citizens of Louisiana, I would like for you to know that the majority of citizens signing this petition felt it should have read, abolish shell dredging completely, and many would not sign until it did.

We also have copies for you of resolutions of local governing bodies around the lake, police juries - parish councils - town and city councils - and from organizations such as the Louisiana Wildlife Federation, the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation, the Audubon Society and the League of Women Voters, all requesting either a halt to or further restricting shell dredging.

Although we realize that the shell dredging companies have a lot of money and a lot of pull in the state legislature and are lobbying there very hard, when thousands of people in one area all agree that this practice is destructive and want it stopped, this certainly should make a statement.

We are not a bunch of tree huggers or ecomaniacs that the shell dredgers are trying to paint a picture of us. We are hard working, everyday people that are sick and tired of watching our lake being destroyed and fed up with officials that refuse to do anything about it. We also have had enough of an industry that blatantly ignores court orders to halt, ignores the will of the people and ignores scientific facts about the destruction they are doing. They have had, not one, not two, not 3, 4, 5, 6, but 7 violations in restrictive zones in 30 days. There is proof of this on radar

and Lorn-C tapes. Do you believe that if a commercial fisherman had seven repeated violations that he would still be fishing? I'll tell you where he'd be, he would be in jail.

According to your lease with shell dredgers, if they are in violation of restricted zones of if environmental impacts occur or threaten to occur, you have the right to suspend shell dredging operations. How much proof do you need before the buck stops passing back and forth between departments. We believe the buck stops here and are challenging you to do you job and stop shell dredging.

We do not stand here before you today without paying a price. I am constantly being called and asked what can we do about dredges that are deliberately destroying our crab traps right in front of us while we are running them. Apparently a food source for the consumer has no value in this state. Until such a time that someone, somewhere in this state government has enough guts to stand up and stop shell dredging as all other states have done, they will continue to run rough shod over the people and destroy our environment.

Everytime this department is called upon to stop shell dredging, all we hear is about a conflict of interest because of revenue. But meanwhile when commercial and recreational fishermen spend their hard earned dollars for licenses to fish in these areas, the department sees no conflict of interest when it comes to restricting or stopping any method of fishing that it feels is wrong or threatening. I ask you, if not what's good for the goose good for the gander?

I would also like to address the fallacy of mitigation from the shell dredging companies. This is a joke and a slap in the face of the people's integrity. Under the guise of doing the people a justice by building fish reefs, they take clam shells from one place in the lake and put them in another. We won't be appeased or sno-balled by this stupidity. If they really want to do the people a justice, just get out! Thank you." Ms. Glockner informed the Commission that copies of everything that has been provided to the Commission will be going to the Governor's office.

Chairman Pol Thanked Ms. Glockner for her statement and asked if there was any further business to come up before the Commission. A gentleman for the audience stated that he would like to comment on shell dredging. Chairman Pol asked that this issue not be brought up today anymore as it is in the courts. The Commission will take the petition and Ms. Glockner's statement into consideration.

There being no other business Mr. Jenkins made a motion to adjourn the April Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously.

Virginia Van Sickle

Secretary

WVS:sb

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## Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

# **NEWS RELEASE**

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE Secretary



CONTACT (504) 765-2917

90-48

April 4, 1990

REVISED AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING, APRIL 4-5

On Thursday, April 5, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will 

The following items will be on the agenda at 1 p.m.:

- 1. Roll call.
- 2 Executive session -- Cooper et. al. versus LDWF.

The following items will be on the agenda at 2 p.m.:

Approval of minutes of March 1-2.

Clarification of boundaries of Calcasieu Sanctuaries and ratification of rule.

Notice of Intent, restriction of trawling and netting in Cameron --Creole Watershed.

Experimental Alligator Harvest Program, Marsh Island discussion, 1989-90 proposal.

Resolution, Notice of Intent -- Free Fishing Days, June 9-10.

Notice of Intent, Black Drum Management Plan.

4 6 Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout quotas.

Trends in recreational/commercial fishing, a state-of-the-state report on marine fisheries.

\* Friday morning only.

Monthly law enforcement report X

Notice of Intent, Resident Game Hunting Regulations Proposals, 1990.

Set date for joint Commission meeting with Texas Parks and Wildlife.

Secretary's report to the Commission. 14.

Set June and July meeting dates 15.

OTHER BUSINESS.

PUBLIC COMMENTS.

On Friday, April 6, the Commission meeting will continue at 9 a.m. at the same location.

### ROLL CALL April 5-6, 1990

	Thursday	Friday
Don Hines	$\underline{\checkmark}$	1/
Jimmy Jenkins	$\underline{\checkmark}$	$\checkmark$
Bert Jones	$\underline{\checkmark}$	<u> </u>
Norman McCall	$\underline{\hspace{0.1cm}}$	1/
Joe Palmisano	<u>a</u>	<u>a</u>
Warren Pol	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Peter Vujnovich		delhier Buay
Mr. Chairman:		
There are	Commissioners in attendance and	we have a quorum.

There are \_\_\_\_\_ Commissioners in attendance and we have a quorum.

Secretary Van Sickle is also present.

Secretary Van Sickle is also present.

Sharyn Bateman

### AGENDA LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA APRIL 5-6, 1990

Roll Call

Executive Session - Cooper et. al. versus LDWF History Contains

Approval of Minutes of March 1-2, 1990 Januar f Michael

Clarification of Boundaries of Calcasieu Sanctuaries and Ratification of Rule - Norman McCall

Notice of Intent, Restriction of Trawling and Netting in Cameron - Creole Watershed - Virginia Van Sickle

Experimental Alligator Harvest Program Marsh Island Discussion 1989-90 Proposal - Johnnie Tarver, Noel Kinler

Resolution, Notice of Intent - Free Fishing Days June 9-16, 1990 - Bob Dennie

Notice of Intent, Black Drum Management Plan - Jerry Clark

Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas - Jerry Clark

10. Trends in Recreational/Commercial Fishing, A State-ofthe-State Report on Marine Fisheries (Friday Morning Only) - Jerry Clark

Monthly Law Enforcement Report - Winton Vidrine ( Friday )

Notice of Intent - Resident Game Hunting Regulations V12. Proposal, 1990 - Hugh Bateman

- 13. Set Date for Joint Commission Meeting with Texas Parks and Wildlife - Virginia Van Sickle (Friday)
- Secretary's Report to the Commission (Friday) 14.
- Set June and July Meeting Dates (Full  $\omega_{ij}$ )

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

PUBLIC COMMENTS: /

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RULE
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

TITLE 76
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

PART VII. FISH AND OTHER AQUATIC LIFE

CHAPTER 3.

SALTWATER SPORT AND COMMERCIAL FISHING

SECTION 333.

SANCTUARIES; CALCASIEU LAKE, SABINE LAKE

The areas within a one quarter mile radius on the lake side only of the Lambert, Grand Bayou, Mangrove, and Peconi water control structures (otherwise identified as structures no. 5, 1, 8 and 4 respectively), and the area within a one eighth mile radius of the water control structure on No Name Bayou, all within the Calcasieu Lake system; the area within a one quarter mile radius of the mouths of West Cove Bayou, West Cove Canal and the Sabine Refuge Headquarters Canal where they empty into Calcasieu Lake; and the area within a one quarter mile radius of the mouths of Three Bayous and Willow Bayou where they empty into Sabine Lake, are fish sanctuaries and closed zones, and that all netting of fish by any means or method, including but not limited to trawls, butterfly nets, gill nets, seines, or trammel nets, is hereby prohibited, with the exception of hand cast nets and hand crab drop nets.

AUTHORITY NOTE:

Promulgated in accordance with R.S.56:315

HISTORICAL NOTE:

Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries,

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR

## RULE WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

## TITLE 76 WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

### PART VII. FISH AND OTHER AQUATIC LIFE

CHAPTER 3. SALTWATER SPORT AND COMMERCIAL FISHING

SECTION 333. SANCTUARIES; CALCASIEU LAKE, SABINE LAKE

The areas within a one quarter mile radius of and on either side of the Lambert, Grand Bayou, Mangrove, and Peconi water control structures (otherwise identified as structures no. 5, 1, 8 and 4 respectively), and the area within a one eighth mile radius of the water control structure on No Name Bayou, all within the Calcasieu Lake system; the area within a one quarter mile radius of the mouths of West Cove Bayou, West Cove Canal and the Sabine Refuge Headquarters Canal where they empty into Calcasieu Lake; and the area within a one quarter mile radius of the mouths of Three Bayous and Willow Bayou where they empty into Sabine Lake, are fish sanctuaries and closed zones, and that all netting of fish by any means or method, including but not limited to trawls, butterfly nets, gill nets, seines, or trammel nets, is hereby prohibited, with the exception of hand cast nets and hand crab drop nets.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S.56:315

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries,

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR :

#### NOTICE OF INTENT

## DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

In accordance with ACt 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature, it is the intent of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declared June 9 and 10, 1990 as Free Recreational Fishing Days in Louisiana to coincide with National Fishing Week June 4-10, 1990. On the two above mentioned free fishing days, residents and non-residents may exercise the privilege of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

Interested parties may submit their views in writing to Bob Dennie, Information and Education Director, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000.

CITATION: None - Changes Annually

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:302.7 HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and

Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (

1990).

Warren Pol Chairman

#### RULE

### DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

In accordance with ACt 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has declared June 9 and 10, 1990 as Free Recreational Fishing Days in Louisiana to coincide with National Fishing Week June 4-10, 1990. On the two above mentioned free fishing days, residents and non-residents may exercise the privilege of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

CITATION: None - Changes Annually

Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:302.7 AUTHORITY NOTE: HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and

Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16:

1990).

Warren Pol Chairman

### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: Sportfishing provides recreation for more than sixty million Americans of all ages, giving families a healthy, shared outdoor activity, and

WHEREAS: Sportfishing, through the payment of millions of dollars annually for licenses, taxes and fees, has provided the funding for federal and state programs that contribute significantly to the preservation and protection of our natural environment, and

WHEREAS: The estimated 800,000 plus sportfishermen in Louisiana contribute in excess of one billion dollars annually to our economy, and

WHEREAS: Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature authorizes the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare no more than two free recreational fishing days each year, and

WHEREAS: Free Fishing Days during National Fishing Week would provide an excellent opportunity to introduce additional individuals to the wholesome outdoor activity of fishing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That we the undersigned members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to hereby officially declare the week of June 4-10, 1990 as

### FISHING WEEK

in the State of Louisiana, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That June 9 and 10, 1990 are hereby declared free recreational fishing days, during which residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

### April 6, 1990

Warren L. Pol, Chairman Don Hines

Jimmy Jenkins Bert Jones

Norman F. McCall Joe Palmisano, Jr.

Peter G. Vujnovich, Sr.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

Warren Pol Chairman

Virginia Van Sickle Secretary

# FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Person Preparing			
Statement:	Paul M. Jackson	Dept:	Wildlife and Fisheries
Phone:	(318) 491-2585	Office:	Secretary
Return Address	La. Dept. of Wildlife	Rule Title:	Free Fishing Days
	1213 N. Lakeshore Dr.		
	Lake Charles, LA 70601	Date Rule Takes Effect:	June 9, 1990
	(Use con	SUMMARY mplete sentence	s)
submitted a or amendment	fiscal and economic impact st	tatement on the tement, based o	na Revised Statutes, there is hereby rule proposed for adoption, repeal in the attached worksheets, will be gency rule.
I. ESTIM/		VINGS) TO STATE	OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS.
	There will be no implementat.	ion cost genera	ted by enactment of this rule.
II. ESTIM/ (Summa	•	d to have no neg	ative effect on revenue collection.
	ATED COST AND/OR ECONOMIC NMENTAL GROUPS (Summary).	BENEFITS TO DI	
IV. ESTIMA	ATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND  The proposed rule will have a	•	
Signature of	f Agency Head or Designee	LE <del>G</del>	ISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICER OR DESIGNEE
	rsecretary and Title of Agency Head or De	esignee	
Date of Sign		D	ate of Signature
-· -· <b>j</b> ·		_	_

## FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

The following information is required in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the Fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversite subcommittee in its deliberations on the proposed rule.

A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of the rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

In accordance with Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature, it is the intent of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare June 9 and 10, 1990 as free recreational fishing days in Louisiana to coincide with National Fishing Week, June 4-10, 1990.

B. Summarize the circumstances which require this action. If the action is required by federal regulations, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

The propose rule is requested to provide two free fishing day, residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without any other wise recreational fishing licenses. Hopefully, this action will result in a increase of fishing license sales in the future.

Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session
(1) Will The proposed rule change result in any increase in expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

There will be no change in expenditure to the Department as a result of this proposed rule.

If the answer to (1) above is yes, has the Legislature specifically a	appropriated
the funds necessary for the associated expenditure increase?	

(a)	 Yes.	If ye	s, atta	ach docum	entatio	n.			
(b)	 No.	If no,	provid	de justif	ication	as	to why	this	rule
	chanç	ge sh <mark>o</mark> u	ld be p	oublished	at thi	s ti	me.		

## FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

### WORKSHEET

### I. A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in costs to implement the proposed action?

COSTS	FY 89-90	FY 90-91	FY 91-92
PERSONAL SERVICES OPERATING EXPENSES PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OTHER CHARGES EQUIPMENT	-0- -0- -0- -0- -0-		
TOTAL	-0-		
MAJOR REPAIR & CONSTR.	0-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
POSITIONS(#)			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A.1.", including
the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number on new forms,
additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the
proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in
calculating these costs.

The providing of two free fishing days, for the public, will result in no additional expenditures of Departmental funds.

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or change.

SOURCE	FY 89-90	FY 90-91	FY 91-92
STATE GENERAL FUND	-0-		
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED	-0-		
DEDICATED	-0-		
FEDERAL FUNDS	-0-		
OTHER (Specify)	-0-		
			—··
TOTAL			

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

Implementation of the proposed rule will result in no additional expenditures.

- B. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.
- Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

The proposed rule will result in the non-fishing public being able to experience the enjoyment of fishing at no cost. This action will have no affect on local governmental units.

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit which will be affected by these costs or savings.

This action will have no affect on local governmental units.

## FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

## WORKSHEET

## II. EFFECTS ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

FY 91-92

<sup>\*</sup>Specify the particular fund being impacted.

B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenue shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculations these increases or decreases.

The proposed rule will have no increase or decrease in revenues.

## FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

### WORKSHEET

## III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

A. What persons or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

The proposed rule will have mo cost or economic benefits to affected persons.

B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

There will be no income resulting from this proposed rule.

## IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

The proposed rule will have no effect on competition and employment.

#### FREE FISHING DAYS

The concept of Free Fishing Days, or a day you can go fishing without a license, was started in Oklahoma in 1982. Every year more states pass legislation allowing a day or two to introduce new people to fishing or to remind those who haven't been in a while what they are missing.

Twenty five states will hold a free fishing day this year. Not all of the states have selected the specific dates for their free fishing day(s) and are listed as dates pending. Interested individuals can contact the state late this spring for the dates. Other states have introduced legislation requesting authorization to offer the free fishing day(s). Before participating in a free fishing day, it is important to check with the state fish and wildlife agency for specific regulations that might apply.

The following states will offer free fishing day(s) in 1989:.

Arizona June 10 Noon June 9 to midnight June 11 Arkansas California Dates pending June 10 Connecticut District of Columbia Dates pending Dates pending Georgia Idaho June 10 June 9, 10 & 11 Illinois June 9, 10 & 11 Iowa Kentucky Dates pending Dates pending June 24 & 25 Louisiana Massachusetts June 10 & 11 Michigan Minnesota June 10 & 11 June 10 & 11 Missouri Nevada June 10 June 10 & 11 New Jersey June 10 & 11 Oklahoma June 10 & 11 Pennsylvania June 3 & 4 Rhode Island South Dakota May 20 & 21 June 10 Utah June 3 & 4 Virginia June 10 & 11 Washington June 3 & 4 Wisconsin

The following states have pending legislation: Alabama, Colorado, Delaware, Kansas, Maine, West Virginia, New Hampshire, Oregon, and Vermont.

Rt. 2, Bx 765 Surshine, La. 70780 Mrs. Virginia Van Seckle, Secretary P.O. Bx 98000 Baton Rouge, La. 70898-9000 Dear Mrs. Van Sickee! Please consider my request to he pet on the agenda of the regular meeting of the Wildlefe and Fisheries Commession on April 5-6. Thank you for their opportunity. Sincerely, H. B. Fairchied, Sr. Former Member of Wildlife + Fisherces Commission

## Governor Buddy Roemer Correspondence Office ROUTE SLIP

File No.: 033931

Date of Request: 04/03/90

Response Requested by: 04/18/90

TO: Virginia Van Sickle, Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries

FROM: Betsy Jones

Constituent: Mr. Ray Santiny

Town of Grand Isle

P. O. Box 200

Grand Isle LA 70358

COMMENTS: LA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES requests that Wildlife & Fisheries Comm.

have meeting in Grand Isle area

ACTION REQUESTED:

Reply Direct to Correspondent



## Town of Grand Isle

POST OFFICE BOX 200 - LUDWIG LANE - GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA 70358 • PHONE: (504) SUNSET 7-3196

ANDY VALENCE MAYOR ROSCOE BESSON, JR. CHIEF OF POLICE GIGI PARRA TOWN CLERK ALDERMEN:
RAY A. SANTINY, SEAT A
JOHN CHERAMIE, SEAT B
ROGER CAMARDELLE, SEAT C
DAVID CAMARDELLE, SEAT D
PAUL BRADBERRY, SEAT E

March 29, 1990

Honorable Buddy Roemer Governor, State of Louisiana State Capitol, P. O. Box 94004 Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Dear Governor:

At their meeting of March 27, 1990, the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Grand Isle passed the attached Resolution. It is hoped that you will consider their request and schedule a meeting on Grand Isle in the near future.

Please feel free to contact this office for any assistance or information in this matter. Hoping this meets with your approval, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Ray A. Santiny, Town Clerk Alderman, Seat A

Alderman, Seat A Town of Grand Isle

x/c: Board of Aldermen

"Grand Isle - Island of Enchantment, Beauty, And Excellence" "Cheniere - Caminada — The Paradise Peninsula, Where The People Are As Beautiful As Its Name"

## RESOLUTION NO. 1002

A Resolution requesting that the Wildlife & Fisheries hold a monthly Commission meeting on Grand Isle.

WHEREAS, the citizens of Grand Isle are strongly affected by the decisions of the Wildlife & Fisheries Commission; and

WHEREAS, many citizens of the community are unable to attend the Commission's regular meeting because of the location of the meeting; and WHEREAS, on occasion in the past, the Commission has held a regular meeting on Grand Isle.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA, THAT

the Wildlife & Fisheries Commission is hereby requested to hold one of their regular meetings on Grand Isle to afford citizens an opportunity to address its members.

This Resolution was considered section	by section and as a whole and was offered	
by Alderman <u>Cheramie</u> , so	econded by Alderman <u>David Camardelle</u> .	
Roll call vote hereon as follows:		

YEAS: 3 Aldermen - John Cheramie, David Camardelle and Paul Bradberry

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 Alderman - Roger Camardelle

This Resolution was declared adopted this 27th day of March, 1990.

Andy Valence, Mayor Town of Grand Isle

ATTESTED:

Ray A. Sontiny, Town Clerk

Town of Grand Isle

#### RECOMMENDATIONS TO

## THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

#### AND THE WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

- 1. Request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries conduct a multi-use review of the Cameron Creole Watershed Project and all future coastal restoration and marsh management projects and make recommendations to lessen the short-term adverse impacts on estuarine fisheries resources without jeopardizing the overall long-term project objectives.
- 2. Request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to increase its monitoring of estuarine fisheries in conjunction with the Cameron Creole Watershed Project and make recommendations for multi-use operation of the project's structures to lessen the short-term adverse impacts on estuarine fisheries without jeopardizing the overall long-term project objectives.
- 3. Request the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service develop a more efficient method of operating the water control structures on the Cameron Creole Watershed Project, such that the gates can be opened and closed on a shorter time frame.
- 4. Recommends all coastal restoration and marsh management projects have current economic impact study done before they are authorized or permitted.
- 5. Recommends to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other appropriate state and federal agencies that representatives from all affected parties, including commercial fishermen, be included on any and all advisory boards which review or develop recommendations for the operations of coastal restoration and marsh management plans.

## RULE WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

## TITLE 76 WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

PART VII. FISH AND OTHER AQUATIC LIFE

CHAPTER 3.

SALTWATER SPORT AND COMMERCIAL FISHING

SECTION 333.

SANCTUARIES; CALCASIEU LAKE, SABINE LAKE

The areas within a one quarter mile radius on the lake side only of the Lambert, Grand Bayou, Mangrove, and Peconi water control structures (otherwise identified as structures no. 5, 1, 8 and 4 respectively), and the area within a one eighth mile radius of the water control structure on No Name Bayou, all within the Calcasieu Lake system; the area within a one quarter mile radius of the mouths of West Cove Bayou, West Cove Canal and the Sabine Refuge Headquarters Canal where they empty into Calcasieu Lake; and the area within a one quarter mile radius of the mouths of Three Bayous and Willow Bayou where they empty into Sabine Lake, are fish sanctuaries and closed zones, and that all netting of fish by any means or method, including but not limited to trawls, butterfly nets, gill nets, seines, or trammel nets, is hereby prohibited, with the exception of hand cast nets and hand crab drop nets.

AUTHORITY NOTE:

Promulgated in accordance with R.S.56:315

HISTORICAL NOTE:

Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries,

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR

## RULE WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

## TITLE 76 WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

PART VII. FISH AND OTHER AQUATIC LIFE

CHAPTER 3. SALTWATER SPORT AND COMMERCIAL FISHING

SECTION 333. SANCTUARIES; CALCASIEU LAKE, SABINE LAKE

The areas within a one quarter mile radius of and on either side of the Lambert, Grand Bayou, Mangrove, and Peconi water control structures (otherwise identified as structures no. 5, 1, 8 and 4 respectively), and the area within a one eighth mile radius of the water control structure on No Name Bayou, all within the Calcasieu Lake system; the area within a one quarter mile radius of the mouths of West Cove Bayou, West Cove Canal and the Sabine Refuge Headquarters Canal where they empty into Calcasieu Lake; and the area within a one quarter mile radius of the mouths of Three Bayous and Willow Bayou where they empty into Sabine Lake, are fish sanctuaries and closed zones, and that all netting of fish by any means or method, including but not limited to trawls, butterfly nets, gill nets, seines, or trammel nets, is hereby prohibited, with the exception of hand cast nets and hand crab drop nets.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S.56:315

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries,

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR : ( ).

#### DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Calcasieu Lake Sabine Lake and the Cameron - Creole Watershed Project

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

April 5, 1990

Pursuant to R.S. 49:950 et. seq. and R.S. 56:315 the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission declares those areas within a one quarter mile radius of the Lambert, Grand Bayou, Mangrove, and Peconi water control structures (otherwise identified as structures no. 5, 1, 8 and 4 respectively), and the area within a one eighth mile radius of the water control structure on No Name Bayou, all within the Calcasieu Lake system; the area within a one quarter mile radius of the mouths of West Cove Bayou, West Cove Canal and the Sabine Refuge Headquarters Canal where they empty into Calcasieu Lake; and the area within a one quarter mile radius of the mouths of Three Bayous and Willow Bayou where they empty into Sabine Lake; and all of the waters within the area encompassed in what is commonly know as the Cameron-Creole Watershed Project in Cameron Parish which is bounded on the south by the Mermentau River and the Gulf of Mexico on the west by the east bank of Calcasieu Pass and Calcasieu Lake on the north by the Intercoastal Waterway and on the east by Louisiana Highway No. 27, Little Cheniere Ridge and Little Cheniere Canal are fish sanctuaries and closed zones, and that all netting of fish by any means or method, including but not limited to trawls, butterfly nets, gill nets, seines, or trammel nets, is hereby prohibited, with the exception of hand cast nets and crab drop nets. effective date of this rule is 12:01 a.m., April 16, 1990. The Commission finds this action necessary to protect the fisheries resources and to prevent imminent peril to the public welfare as a result of the above fishing activities in these areas.

> Warren Pol Chairman

## RULE WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

## TITLE 76 WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

### PART VII. FISH AND OTHER AQUATIC LIFE

CHAPTER 3. SALTWATER SPORT AND COMMERCIAL FISHING

SECTION 333. SANCTUARIES; CALCASIEU LAKE, SABINE LAKE AND THE CAMERON-CREOLE WATERSHED PROJECT

The areas within a one quarter mile radius on either side of the Lambert, Grand Bayou, Mangrove, and Peconi water control structures (otherwise identified as structures no. 5, 1, 8 and 4 respectively), and the area within a one eighth mile radius of the water control structure on No Name Bayou, all within the Calcasieu Lake system; the area within a one quarter mile radius of the mouths of West Cove Bayou, West Gove Canal and the Sabine Refuge Headquarters Canal where they empty into Calcasieu Lake; the area within a one quarter mile radius of the mouths of Three Bayous and Willow Bayou where they empty into Sabine Lake; and all the waters within the area encompassed in what is commonly known as the Cameron-Creole Watershed Project in Cameron Parish which is bounded on the south by the Mermentau River and the Gulf of Mexico on the west by the east bank of Calcasieu Pass and Calcasieu Lake; on the north by the Intercoastal Waterway and on the east by Louisiana Highway No. 27, Little Cheniere Ridge and Little Cheniere Canal, are fish sanctuaries and closed zones, and that all netting of fish by any means or method, including but not limited to trawls, butterfly nets, gill nets, seines, or trammel nets, is hereby prohibited, with the exception of hand cast nets and hand crab drop nets.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S.56:315

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries,

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR : ( ).

# NOTICE OF INTENT DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

## TITLE 76 WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

PART VII. FISH AND OTHER AQUATIC LIFE

CHAPTER 3. SALTWATER SPORT AND COMMERCIAL FISHING

SECTION 333. SANCTUARIES; CALCASIEU LAKE, SABINE LAKE AND THE CAMERON-CREOLE WATERSHED PROJECT

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of intent to establish fish sanctuaries and closed zones, and prohibit all netting of fish by any means or methods, including but not limited to trawls, butterfly nets, gill nets, seines, or trammel nets with the exception of hand cast nets and hand crab drop nets within a one quarter mile radius of the Lambert, Grand Bayou, Mangrove, and Peconi water control structures (otherwise identified as structures no. 5, 1, 8 and 4 respectively), the area within a one eighth mile radius of the water control structure on No Name Bayou, all within the Calcasieu Lake system; the area within a one quarter mile radius of the mouths of West Cove Bayou, West Cove Canal and the Sabine Refuge Headquarters Canal where they empty into Calcasieu Lake; the area within a one quarter mile radius of the mouths of Three Bayous and Willow Bayou where they empty into Sabine Lake; and all of the waters within the area encompassed in what is commonly known as the Cameron-Creole Watershed Project in Cameron Parish which is bounded on the south by the Mermentau River and the Gulf of Mexico on the west by the east bank of Calcasieu Pass and Calcasieu Lake on the north by the Intercoastal Waterway and on the east by Louisiana Highway No. 27, Little Cheniere Ridge and Little Cheniere Canal.

Interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed rule until 4:30 p.m. June 20, 1990 to Jerry Clark, Assistant Secretary, Office of Fisheries, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Post Office Box 98000, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898-9000.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S.56:315

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries,

The sealer

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR

#### Notice of Intent

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to adopt rules and regulations establishing size limits, quotas and special license requirements for the harvest of black drum.

The proposed black drum measures are as follows:

Title 76
Wildlife and Fisheries
Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

12 - \$1 -3 - \$1

Section 331. Black Drum Size Limits, Daily Take and Possession Limits, Quotas and Special Permit Requirements.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the following rules and regulations for the taking of black drum (<u>Pogonias cromis</u>):

The daily take and possession limit for black drum caught recreationally within or without Louisiana waters shall be five (5) fish per day and in possession.

The minimum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be sixteen (16) inches total length.

The maximum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be twenty-seven (27) inches total length; provided however that recreational fishermen shall be allowed to take and possess one black drum per day over twenty-seven (27) inches. It is provided further that commercial fishermen, when in possession of a "Special Black Drum Permit", shall be allowed to take and possess black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches in unlimited quantities until the annual quota has been met.

The annual commercial quota for sixteen (16) to twenty-seven (27) inch black drum shall be 3,250,000 pounds.

The annual commercial quota for black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches shall be 300,000 fish.

The fishing year for black drum shall begin on September 1, 1990 and every September 1st thereafter.

A "Special Black Drum Permit" shall be annually required for persons commercially taking black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches and each "Special Black Drum Permit" holder shall on or before the tenth of each month make a return to the department on forms provided or approved for the purpose, the number of black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches taken commercially during the preceding month.

Once the black drum commercial quota(s) has been met; the purchase, barter, trade or sale of black drum taken in Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. The commercial taking or landing of black drum in Louisiana, whether caught within or without the territorial waters of Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. Nothing in this rule shall be deemed to prohibit the possession of fish legally taken prior to the closure order.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall, by public notice, close the commercial fishery(s) for black drum when the quota(s) has been met or is projected to be met. The closure shall not take effect for at least seventy-two (72) hours after notice to the public.

Authority for adoption of this rule is contained in Sections 6(10), 326.1 and 326.3 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to: John E. Roussel, Marine Fish Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898-9000.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with 56:6(10)326.1, 326.3. HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: ( ).

Warren I. Pol Chairman

## FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Person Prepar States	ring	<u>John Roussel</u>	Dept:	Wildlife and Fisheries
Phone	:	(504) 765-2383	Office:	Fisheries
Retur Addre		La. Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries P.O. Box 98000	Rule Title:	Black Drum Size Limits, Daily Take and Possession Limits, Quotas and Special Permit Requirements
		Baton Rouge, LA 70898	Takes Eff	ect:
		SU (Use compl	JMMARY ete senten	ces)
submi or am	tted a endmen	fiscal and economic impact stat	ement on t ents, base	iana Revised Statutes, there is hereby he rule proposed for adoption, repeal d on the attached worksheets, will be agency rule.
I. (Summ		ATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVIN	GS) TO STA	TE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS
	requi			expenditures of funds, however it will r to issue the "Special Permits" and
II. (Summ		ATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIO	NS OF STAT	E OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS
	the S to st negat	tate of Louisiana, however there ate or local governmental reven ive impact by discouraging partic	e is no me ues. The cipation in	ack drum is economically important to thod for quantifying its contribution proposed rule may have a short-term in the fishery, but should have a long- health of the black drum fishery.
III.		ATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BEINMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)	NEFITS TO	DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NON-
		will be no costs to directly affe roposed rule should result in po		ns or non-governmental groups, however g-term economic benefits.
IV.	ESTIM	ATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND E	MPLOYMENT	(Summary)
		roposed rule may increase competi er employment should increase ov		lecrease employment in the short-term, g-term.
Signat	ture o	f Agency Head or Designee	LEGIS	LATIVE FISCAL OFFICER OR DESIGNEE
Typed	Name a	and Title of Agency Head or Desi	gnee	
Date of	of Sign	nature	Date	of Signature

- 149<sup>22</sup>-11

## FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

The following information is required in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberations on the proposed rule.

A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

The proposed rule establishes a daily take and possession limit of 5 fish for black drum caught recreationally, a minimum legal size of 16 inches and a maximum legal size of 27 inches for fish caught recreationally or commercially and an annual commercial quota of 3,250,000 pounds for fish 16 inches - 27 inches. The proposed rule also allows for the following exceptions: recreational fishermen may take and possess 1 fish over 27 inches and commercial fishermen when in possession of a special black drum permit may take black drum over 27 inches until the annual quota of 300,000 fish has been caught. The proposed rule also sets the fishing year to begin on September 1 and provides that special black drum permit holders must report their catch of fish over 27 inches monthly.

B. Summarize the circumstances which require this action. 'If the action is required by federal regulations, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

The harvest of black drum has grown dramatically in recent years and continued harvest at these levels could threaten the long-term health of the black drum stocks. Under the proposed management measures, fishing mortality rates would be stabilized at levels which will maintain an age structure which will ensure a healthy fishery in the future.

C. Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session

(1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

The proposed rule will not result in increased expenditure of funds, however it will require some reprogramming of existing manpower to issue the "Special Permits" and monitor the commercial quotas.

(2)					•			Legislat enditure		specificall rease?	у аррі	copriated
	(a)	 ч	es.	If y	es,	attac	h do	cumentat	ion.			

(b) \_\_\_\_\_ No. If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time.

#### WORKSHEET

I.	Α.	COSTS OR SAVI	NGS TO STATE AGEN	CIES RESULTING FROM	THE ACTION PROPOSED
	1.	What is the a action?	nticipated increa	se (decrease) in cos	ts to implement the proposed
COST	'S		FY 89-90	FY 90-91	FY 91-92
OPER PROF OTHE	ATING	ERVICES EXPENSES AL SERVICES GES			
<u>TOTA</u>	L .	_	0	0	00
MAJO	R REPA	IR & CONSTR.		·	1
POSI	TIONS	(#)			
	2.	including the of new forms implementation	increase or reduc , additional docu	ction in workload or mentation, etc.) ant d action. Describe	r savings shown in "A.l.", additional paperwork (number icipated as a result of the all data, assumptions, and
		Permits", the the developme	development of a nt of monthly repo	procedure for proje orting forms to be us	nce of "Special Black Drum cting the commercial quotas, sed by the permit holders and he commercial quotas.
	3.	Sources of fu	nding for impleme	nting the proposed r	ule or rule change.
SOUR	RCE		FY 89-90	FY 90-91	FY 91-92
STAT AGEN DEDI FEDE	E GENE				

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

0

TOTAL

The agency has sufficient funds by reprogramming existing funds and manpower.

0

0

- B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.
- Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements.
   Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

The proposed rule should have no impact on local governmental units.

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit which will be affected by these costs or savings.

Local governmental units will require no additional sources of funding.

#### WORKSHEET

#### II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

Α.	What increase	(decrease)	in revenues	can be	anticipated	from t	the proposed	action?

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE FY 89-90

FY 90-91

FY 91-92

STATE GENERAL FUND

AGENCY SELF-GENERATED

RESTRICTED FUNDS\*

FEDERAL FUNDS

LOCAL FUNDS

TOTAL

B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

There is no method for quantifying the increase or decrease in revenues as a result of the proposed rule. However, the commercial and recreational fishery for black drum is economically important to the State of Louisiana. The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries' Black Drum Management Plan presented information which suggest that the commercial black drum fishery had an average annual economic impact from 1980-1989 of in excess of 2.5 million dollars. This document also estimated gross expenditures by the recreational black drum fishery as from 4.2 to 10.7 million dollars annually. The proposed measures may have a short-term negative impact by discouraging participation in the fishery, but should have a long-term positive impact by ensuring the continued health of the black drum fishery.

<sup>\*</sup>Specify the particular fund being impacted.

#### WORKSHEET

#### III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

A. What persons or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

Recreational and commercial fishermen will be directly affected by the proposed rule. There should be no effect on costs or workload adjustments, however permit holders will be required to complete additional paperwork in the form of monthly reporting forms.

B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

There should be no long-term impacts on receipts and/or income resulting from the proposed rule, although there may be some short-term negative impacts.

#### IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

The proposed rule may increase competition and decrease employment in the short-term, however employment should increase over the long-term.

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## FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

			FOR ADMINISTRAT	IVE RULES	MAR 15 1990
Person					
Preparin Statemen		Dave Morrison	Dept:		La. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
Phone:	•	504/765-2347	Offic	e:	Wildlife/Game Division
Return Address:	: .	P. O. Box 98000	Rule Title	:	56:115 Hunting of Resident Game Birds and Game
		Baton Rouge, LA	<del></del>		Quadrupeds, 1990-91
			Date 1 Takes	Rule Effect:	September 1, 1990
			SUMMAR		•
hereby s	ubmitte , repea	ed a fiscal and eco al or amendment. T	momic impact sta The following sur	e Louisian atement or mmary stat	na Revised Statutes, there is n the rule proposed for tements, based on the attached ith the proposed agency rule.
I.	ESTIMA (Summa	TED IMPLEMENTATION	COSTS (SAVINGS)	) TO STATE	E OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS
<b>,</b>	Estab. cost o	lishment of hunting of implementing the	proposed rules	, aside fi	process. The only real rom staff time, is the ted cost of printing will
II.	PCTTWA	TED ETEROT ON BENE	THE COLLECTIONS	OF COLUMN	OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS
11.	(Summa	ry)			
	5.1 m	cted hunti <b>ng</b> licens illion dollars. Fa n established and a	ailure to adopta:	rule chang	90-91 will be approximately ges would result in no hunting
III.	NON-GO	VERNMENTAL GROUPS	(Summary)		CTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR
	comme	rcial sales of outo esare based on the	door related equ	ipment and	000,000 annually through the d other associated items. Fish and Wildlife Associated
IV.	estima	TED EFFECT ON COMP	ETITION AND EMPL	OYMENT (S	Summary)
	There effec	is no realistic mets of hunting regu	ethod by which t lations on emplo	this Depar	tment can estimate the competition.
Signature	of Ag	Mr. Undusersency Head or Design	utuy.	LEGISLA	TVE FISCAL OFFICER OR DESIGNEE
	e and	Title of Agency Hea	ad or Designee	~	-11/62
Date of S	ignatu:	re	<del></del>	Date of	3/16/90 Signature

### FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

The following information is required in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberations on the proposed rule.

A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has accepted proposals developed by the staff of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Proposals include season rules and regulations for hunting resident game birds and quadrupeds for the period October 1, 1990 through May 15, 1991. The proposal includes open hunting season dates, bag limits, methods for taking game species and special regulation on Department operated wildlife management areas.

B. Summarize the circumstances which require this action. If the action is required by federal regulations, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

Management and conservation of the state's resident wildlife resources are vested by Law (Title 56) with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. Management of wildlife includes the annual establishment of regulations that provide for recreational use of these resources through sport hunting. These guidelines protect breeding stock from over exploitation. Regulations are developed with the cooperation of the public through three public hearings.

C. Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session (1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

No

(2)	If the answer to appropriated the	(1) above is yes, has the Legislature specifically funds necessary for the associated expenditure increase
	(a) (b)	Yes. If yes, attach documentation. No. If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time.
Hu	inting regulations	need to be adjusted annually.

#### WORKSHEET

#### I. A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in costs to implement the proposed action?

COSTS	<b>FY</b> 90-91	PY 94-02	<b>F</b> Y92-93
PERSONAL SERVICES	none	none	none
OPERATING EXPENSES	none	none	none
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	50-75K	none	none
OTHER CHARGES	none	none	none
EQUIPMENT	none	none	

POSITIONS(#)

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A.l.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

Printing of the regulation pamphlet is estimated to be 50K 75K. Cost figures may be reduced depending on the manner by which pamphlets are produced.

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

SOURCE	<b>FY</b> 90~91	FY 91-92	FY 92-03
STATE GENERAL FUND AGENCY SELF-GENERATED DEDICATED FEDERAL FUNDS OTHER (Specify)	X	Х .	X

#### TOTAL

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

Current budget request (FY90-91) are adequate to implement and carry out the proposed action.

- B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.
- Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

Establishment of hunting regulation are done annually. No adjustments in workload and paperwork are necessary.

 Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit which will be affected by these costs or savings.

No local governmental unit will be affected.

#### WORKSHEET

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#### II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE	<b>FY</b> 90-91	<b>TY 99</b> -92	FY 99-99-
STATE GENERAL FUND		• •	
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED	0	0	0
RESTRICTED FUNDS*		•	
FEDERAL FUNDS			
LOCAL FUNDS	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
TOTAL	0	0	0

<sup>\*</sup>Specify the particular fund being impacted.

B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

No noticeable change is expected in the total sale of hunting licenses therefore no change in revenue collected.

#### WORKSHEET

## III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

A. What persons or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

Approximately 450,000 resident sportsman, 12,000 non-resident hunters, sporting good distributors and landowners are directly affected by this proposal. No additional costs, workload or paper work will result by implementing the proposed rules and regulation.

B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

Revenue generated by sportsman are estimated at \$325,000,000 annually. Retail outlets, landowners and commercial operations that cater to the hunting public would lose revenue if hunting rules and regulations are not promulgated.

#### IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

There is no other data available to estimate the impact of proposed action on competition and employment.

NOTICE OF INTENT
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to promulgate rules and regulations governing the hunting of resident game birds and game quadrupeds. A synopsis of said rule is attached to and made part of this notice of intent. (A more detailed copy of the rule is available upon

request from the address listed below.)

Public hearings will be held at regularly scheduled Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission meeting in May and June. Additionally, interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed rule until May 31, 1990 to Hugh A. Bateman, Administrator, Game Division, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898.

CITATION: None - changes annually

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries,

and Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR 16: (

)

Warren Pol Chairman

#### SUMMARY OF 1990-91 HUNTING SEASON REGULATIONS

Quail: Nov. 22-Feb. 28 - Daily Bag Limit 10, Possession 20 Rabbit: Oct. 6-Feb. 28 - Daily Bag Limit 8, Possession 16 Squirrel: Oct. 6-Jan. 27 - Daily Bag Limit 8, Possession 16

Deer: One per day, 6 per season

Area 1 - 60 days

7 days still hunting only
Nov. 10-25
Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader)
Adays with or without dogs
Dec. 8-Jan 12

Area 2 - 60 days

28 days still hunting only Nov. 3-30

7 days still hunting only Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader)

25 days with or without dogs Dec. 8-Jan. 1

Area 3 - 60 days

28 days still hunting only Nov. 3-30

Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader) 7 days still hunting only

Dec. 8-Jan. 1 25 days still hunting only

Area 4 - 46 days

7 days still hunting only
30 days still hunting only
Dec. 1-Dec. 7 (Muzzleloader)
Dec. 8-Jan 6

Area 5 - 16 days

9 days still hunting only Nov. 17-25 7 days still hunting only Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader)

Turkey - One per day, 3 per season

Area A - 30 days. March 30-April 28

Area B - 37 days. March 23-April 28 Area C - 9 days. April 20-April 28

Area D - 16 days. April 13-April 28

## RULE WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

In accordance with the Notice of Intent published in the April, 1990 Louisiana Register, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, at its regular monthly meeting in June hereby adopts regulation on open hunting season dates, bag limit, methods of taking, and rules and regulation on Department operated wildlife management areas for the period October 1, 1990-May 15, 1991. Authority to establish regulation is vested in the Commission by Section 115 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statues of 1950. A synopsis of season dates is attached and made part of this rule.

For those interested, a more detailed copy of the rules and regulations is available upon request to Hugh A. Bateman, Administrator, Game Division, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000.

CITATION: None - changes annually

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries,

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR 16: ( )

Warren Pol Chairman

#### SUMMARY OF 1990-91 **HUNTING SEASON REGULATIONS**

Quail: Nov. 22-Feb. 28 - Daily Bag Limit 10, Possession 20 Rabbit: Oct. 6-Feb. 28 - Daily Bag Limit 8, Possession 16 Squirrel: Oct. 6-Jan. 27 - Daily Bag Limit 8, Possession 16

Deer: One per day, 6 per season

Area 1 - 60 days

16 days still hunting only
7 days still hunting only
37 days with or without dogs
Nov. 10-25
Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader)
Dec. 8-Jan. 13

Area 2 - 60 days

28 days still hunting only Nov. 3-30

Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader) 7 days still hunting only

Dec. 8-Jan. 1 25 days with or without dogs

Area 3 - 60 days

28 days still hunting only Nov. 3-30

Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader) 7 days still hunting only

25 days still hunting only Dec. 8-Jan. 1

Area 4 - 46 days

9 days still hunting only Nov. 17-25

7 days still hunting only Dec. 1-Dec. 7 (Muzzleloader)

Dec. 8-Jan. 6 30 days still hunting only

Area 5 - 16 days

9 days still hunting only Nov. 17-25

Nov. 1/-25 Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader) 7 days still hunting only

Turkey - One per day, 3 per season

Area A - 30 days. March 30-April 28

Area B - 37 days. March 23-April 28

Area C - 9 days. April 20-April 28

Area D - 16 days. April 13-April 28

#### LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES April 5, 1990

#### RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for resident game birds and quadrupeds, and
- WHEREAS, authority to establish seasons, bag limits, possession limits and other rules and regulations for the hunting, taking and possession of any species of wild game birds or quadrupeds is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:115, and
- WHEREAS, this action will provide for the protection and conservation of these natural resources and allow for recreational opportunities for sport hunting on both public and private lands, and
- WHEREAS, the Commission and Department staff have jointly reviewed and considered all available biological information and requests from sportsmen of the state, now
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rules, regulations, season dates, and bag limits affecting sport hunting of resident game species are hereby adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

Warren Pol, Chairman La. Wildlife and Fisheries Commission Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary La. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE SECRETARY

## DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES POST OFFICE BOX \$8000 BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898 PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER GOVERNOR

March 15, 1989

Mr. John R. Rombach Legislative Fiscal Officer P. O. Box 94097 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9097

ATT: Bob Hosse

RE: Wildlife and Fisheries Commission Notice of Intent: Hunting Seasons, 1990-91

Dear Mr. Rombach:

Enclosed for your consideration, please find Fiscal and Economic Impact Statement for the enclosed Notice of Intent and Rule relative to:

Hunting Seasons for Resident Game Birds and Game Quadrupeds

If further information is needed, please contact Dave Morrison at (504) 765-2347.

Sincerely,

Virginia Van Sickle

Secretary

VVS:sb



#/3 Commissiones Asst. Sco. 4-3-90

#### COMMISSIONERS

### PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

4200 Smith School Road Austin, Texas 78744

\* CHARLES D. TRAVIS Executive Director

.. ယ

CHUCK NASH Chairman, San Marcos

GEORGE C. "TIM" HIXON Vice-Chairman San Antonio

March 30, 1990

BOB ARMSTRONG Austin

LEE M. BASS Ft. Worth

HENRY C. BECK, III Dallas

DELO H. CASPARY Rockport

JOHN WILSON KELSEY Houston

BEATRICE CARR PICKENS
Amarillo

A.R. (TONY) SANCHEZ, JR. Laredo

Ms. Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary Department of Wildlife and Fisheries P. O. Box 98000 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898

Dear Virginia:

I have discussed your suggested meeting dates for a second joint meeting of our commissioners with Chairman Nash. The week of July 16-20, 1990 appears to be a good week to schedule the meeting. Please let me know the two days within that week that would best suit your Commissioners.

I am tentatively planning a tour of our San Marcos Fish Hatchery Facility (approximately 30 miles from Austin) the afternoon of the first day followed by an evening get-together and meal hosted by our Commissioners. After an overnight stay in Austin, the Joint Meeting would be held at Department headquarters beginning at 9:00 a.m. with adjournment by Noon.

As we proceed with further plans for the meeting I will forward a proposed agenda to you for your approval and suggested topics for discussion.

Sincerely,

Charles D. Travis Executive Director

CDT:ns

cc: Honorable Chuck Nash

APPROVED VS

#### AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

On Thursday, April 5th, 1990 the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting at 1:00 p.m. in the Louisiana Room, Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

The following items will be on the agenda at 1 p.m.:

- 1. Roll Call
- Executive Session Cooper et. al. versus LDWF

The following items will be on the agenda at 2 p.m.:

- 3. Approval of Minutes of March 1-2, 1990
- 4. Clarification of Boundaries of Calcasieu Sanctuaries and Ratification of Rule
- 5. Notice of Intent, Restriction of Trawling and Netting in Cameron Creole Watershed
- 6. Experimental Alligator Harvest Program Marsh Island Discussion 1989-90 Proposal
- 7. Resolution, Notice of Intent Free Fishing Days June 9-10, 1990
- 8. Notice of Intent, Black Drum Management Plan
- 9 Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas
- 10. Trends in Recreational/Commercial Fishing, A State-ofthe-State Report on Marine Fisheries (Friday Morning Only)
- 11. Monthly Law Enforcement Report
- 12. Notice of Intent, Resident Game Hunting Regulations Proposals, 1990
- 13. Set Date for Joint Commission Meeting with Texas Parks and Wildlife
- 14. Secretary's Report to the Commission
- 15. Set June and July Meeting Dates

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS:

On Friday, April 6, the Commission meeting will continue at 9 a.m. at the same location.

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

**NEWS RELEASE** 

SHARON - WI

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
Secretary

90-46

Ufdatal

Agenda CONTACT (504) 765-2917

April 2, 1990

#### UPDATED AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

On Thursday, April 5, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting at 2 p.m. at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Dr., in Baton Rouge.

On Friday, April 6, the Commission meeting will continue at 9 a.m. at the same location.

The following items will be on the agenda:

- 1. Roll call.
- 2. Approval of minutes of March 1-2.
- 3. Clarification of boundaries of Calcasieu Sanctuaries and ratification of rule.
- 4. Notice of Intent, restriction of trawling and netting in Cameron -- Creole Watershed.
- 5. Experimental Alligator Harvest Program, Marsh Island discussion, 1989-90 proposal.
- 6. Resolution, Notice of Intent -- Free Fishing Days, June 9-10.
- 7. Notice of Intent, Black Drum Management Plan.
- 8. Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas.
- 9. Trends in recreational/commercial fishing, a state-of-the-state report on marine fisheries.
- 10. Monthly law enforcement report.
- 11. Notice of Intent, Resident Game Hunting Regulations Proposals, 1990.
- 12. Set date for joint commission meeting with Texas Parks and Wildlife.
- 13. Secretary's report to the Commission.
- 14. Set June and July meeting dates.

15. Executive session -- Cooper et. al. versus LDWF.

OTHER BUSINESS.

PUBLIC COMMENTS.

1:00 p.m.

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APPROVED_	

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#### AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

On Thursday, April 5th, 1990 the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting at 2:00 P.M. in the Louisiana Room, Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

On Friday, April 6th, 1990 the Commission meeting will be continued at the same location at 9:00 A.M.

The following items will be on the agenda:

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Approval of Minutes of March 1-2, 1990
- 3. Clarification of Boundaries of Calcasieu Sanctuaries and Ratification of Rule
- 4. Notice of Intent, Restriction of Trawling and Netting in Cameron Creole Watershed
- 5. Experimental Alligator Harvest Program Marsh Island Discussion 1989-90 Proposal
- Resolution, Notice of Intent Free Fishing Days June 9-10, 1990
- 7. Notice of Intent, Black Drum Management Plan
- 8. Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas
- 9. Trends in Recreational/Commercial Fishing, A State-ofthe-State Report on Marine Fisheries
- 10. Monthly Law Enforcement Report
- 11. Notice of Intent, Resident Game Hunting Regulations Proposals, 1990
- 12. Set Date for Joint Commission Meeting with Texas Parks and Wildlife
- 13. Secretary's Report to the Commission
- 14. Set June and July Meeting Dates
- 15. Executive Session Cooper et. al. versus LDWF

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

Α	PPROVED	
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On Thursday, April 5th, 1990 the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting at 2:00 P.M. in the Louisiana Room, Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

On Friday, April 6th, 1990 the Commission meeting will be continued at the same location at 9:00 A.M.

The following items will be on the agenda:

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Approval of Minutes of March 1-2, 1990
- 3. Clarification of Boundaries of Calcasieu Sanctuaries and Ratification of Rule
- 4. Notice of Intent, Restriction of Trawling and Netting in Cameron Creole Watershed
- 5. Experimental Alligator Harvest Program Marsh Island Discussion 1989-90 Proposal
- Resolution, Notice of Intent Free Fishing Days June 9-10, 1990
- 7. Notice of Intent, Black Drum Management Plan
- 8. Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas
- 9. Trends in Recreational/Commercial Fishing, A State-ofthe-State Report on Marine Fisheries
- 10. Monthly Law Enforcement Report
- 11. Notice of Intent, Resident Game Hunting Regulations Proposals, 1990
- 12. Set Date for Joint Commission Meeting with Texas Parks and Wildlife
- 13. Secretary's Report to the Commission
- 14. Set June and July Meeting Dates
- 15. Executive Session Cooper et. al. versus LDWF

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

#### AGENDA LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA APRIL 5-6, 1990

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Approval of Minutes of March 1-2, 1990
- 3. Clarification of Boundaries of Calcasieu Sanctuaries and Ratification of Rule Norman McCall
- 4. Notice of Intent, Restriction of Trawling and Netting in Cameron Creole Watershed Virginia Van Sickle
- 5. Experimental Alligator Harvest Program Marsh Island Discussion 1989-90 Proposal - Johnnie Tarver, Noel Kinler
- 6. Resolution, Notice of Intent Free Fishing Days June 9-19, 1990 - Bob Dennie
- 7. Notice of Intent, Black Drum Management Plan Jerry Clark
- 8. Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas Jerry Clark
- 9. Trends in Recreational/Commercial Fishing, A State-ofthe-State Report on Marine Fisheries - Jerry Clark
- 10. Monthly Law Enforcement Report Winton Vidrine
- 11. Notice of Intent Resident Game Hunting Regulations Proposal, 1990 Hugh Bateman
- 12. Set Date for Joint Commission Meeting with Texas Parks and Wildlife Virginia Van Sickle
- 13. Secretary's Report to the Commission
- 14 Set June and July Meeting Dates
- 15. Executive Session Cooper et. al. versus LDWF

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

# AGENDA LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA APRIL 5-6, 1990

1. Roll Call

Approval of Minutes of March 1-2, 1990

Discussion 1989-1990 Proposal - Johnnie Tarver (per )

Experimental Alligator Harvest Program Marsh Island

Resolution, Notice of Intent - Free Fishing Days June 9-10, 1990 - Bob Dennie Notice of Intent,

Proposed Black Drum Management Plan - Jerry Clark

Clarification of Boundaries of Calcasieu Sanctuaries and Ratification of Rule - Norman McCall

Notice of Intent, Restriction of Trawling in Cameron - Creole Watershed - Virginia Van Sickle

- 8. Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas Jerry Clark
- 9. Trends in Recreational/Commercial Fishing, A State-ofthe-State Report on Marine Fisheries - Jerry Clark
- Notice of Intent Resident Game Hunting Regulations Proposal, 1990 Hugh Bateman
  - >1 (. Monthly Law Enforcement Report Winton Vidrine
  - 12. Set Date for Joint Commission Meeting with Texas Parks and Wildlife - Virginia Van Sickle
  - 13. Secretary's Report to the Commission
  - 14 Set June and July Meeting Dates
  - 15. Executive Session Cooper et. al. versus LDWF

OTHER BUSINESS:

On Thursday, April 5th, 1990 the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting at 2:00 P.M. in the Louisiana Room, Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

On Friday, April 6th, 1990 the Commission meeting will be continued at the same location at 9:00 A.M.

The following items will be on the agenda:

- 1. Roll Call
- Approval of Minutes of March 1-2, 1990
- 3. Experimental Alligator Harvest Program Marsh Island Discussion 1989-1990 Proposal
- 4. Resolution, Notice of Intent Free Fishing Days June 9 10, 1990
- 5. Proposed Black Drum Management Plan
- 6. Clarification of Boundaries of Calcasieu Sanctuaries and Ratification of Rule
- 7. Notice of Intent, Restriction of Trawling in Cameron Creole Watershed
- 8. Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas
- 9. Trends in Recreational/Commercial Fishing, A State-ofthe-State Report on Marine Fisheries
- 10. Notice of Intent Resident Game Hunting Regulations Proposal, 1990
- 11. Monthly Law Enforcement Report
- 12. Set Date for Joint Commission Meeting with Texas Parks and Wildlife
- 13. Secretary's Report to the Commission
- 14. Set June and July Meeting Dates
- 15. Executive Session Cooper et. al. versus LDWF

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

On Thursday, April 5th, 1990 the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting at 2:00 P.M. in the Louisiana Room, Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

On Friday, April 6th, 1990 the Commission meeting will be continued at the same location at 9:00 A.M.

The following items will be on the agenda:

- 1. Roll Call
- Approval of Minutes of March 1-2, 1990
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- 4. Resolution, Notice of Intent Free Fishing Days June 9 10, 1990
- 5. Proposed Black Drum Management Plan
- 6. Clarification of Boundaries of Calcasieu Sanctuaries and Ratification of Rule
- 7. Notice of Intent, Restriction of Trawling in Cameron Creole Watershed
- 8. Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas
- 9. Trends in Recreational/Commercial Fishing, A State-ofthe-State Report on Marine Fisheries
- 10. Notice of Intent Resident Game Hunting Regulations Proposal, 1990
- 11. Monthly Law Enforcement Report
- 12. Set Date for Joint Commission Meeting with Texas Parks and Wildlife
- 13. Secretary's Report to the Commission
- 14. Set June and July Meeting Dates
- 15. Executive Session Cooper et. al. versus LDWF

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

On Thursday, April 5th, 1990 the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting at 2:00 P.M. in the Louisiana Room, Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

On Friday, April 6th, 1990 the Commission meeting will be continued at the same location at 9:00 A.M.

The following items will be on the agenda:

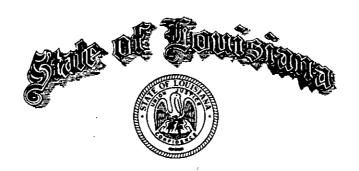
- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Approval of Minutes of March 1-2, 1990
- Experimental Alligator Harvest Program Marsh Island 3. Discussion 1989-1990 Proposal
- Resolution, Notice of Intent Free Fishing Days June 9 4. 10, 1990
- Ratification of Calcasieu Sanctuaries wording 2000 Notice of Intent 5.
- 6.
- Notice of Intent, Restriction of Trawling in Cameron -7. Creole Watershed
- Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas 8.
- Trends in Recreational/Commercial Fishing, A State-of-9. the-State Report on Marine Fisheries
- Notice of Intent Resident Game Hunting Regulations 10. Proposal, 1990
- Monthly Law Enforcement Report 11.
- Set Date for Joint Commission Meeting with Texas Parks 12. and Wildlife
- Secretary's Report to the Commission 13.
- 14. Set June and July Meeting Dates
- 15. Executive Session - Cooper et. al. versus LDWF

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

# AGENDA LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA APRIL 5-6, 1990

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Approval of Minutes of March 1-2, 1990
- 3. Experimental Alligator Harvest Program Marsh Island Discussion 1989-1990 Proposal Johnnie Tarver
- 4. Resolution, Notice of Intent Free Fishing Days June 9-10, 1990 - Bob Dennie
- 5. Proposed Black Drum Management Plan Jerry Clark Clause & Bourles
- 6. Ratification of Calcasieu Sanctuaries Jerry Clark
- 7. Notice of Intent, Restriction of Trawling in Cameron . Creole Watershed Jerry Clark
- 8. Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas Jerry Clark
- 9. Trends in Recreational/Commercial Fishing, A State-ofthe-State Report on Marine Fisheries - Jerry Clark
- 10. Notice of Intent Resident Game Hunting Regulations
  Proposal, 1990 Hugh Bateman
- 11. Monthly Law Enforcement Report Winton Vidrine
- 12. Set Date for Joint Commission Meeting with Texas Parks and Wildlife Virginia Van Sickle
- 13. Secretary's Report to the Commission
- 14 Set June and July Meeting Dates
- 15. Executive Session Cooper et. al. versus LDWF

OTHER BUSINESS:



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE SECRETARY

# DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES POST OFFICE BOX 98000 BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898 PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER GOVERNOR

March 22, 1990

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Chairman and Members of Commission

FROM:

Virginia Van Sickle

RE:

April Board Meeting

The next regular public board meeting as set by the Commission will be at 2:00 PM on Thursday, April 5th, 1990, in the Louisiana Room at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

On Friday, April 6th, 1990, the regular Commission meeting will be continued at the same location at 9:00 AM.

The following will be on the agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes of March 5-6, 1990

#### NORMAN MCCALL

2. Boundary Lines of the Sanctuaries in Calcasieu Lake and Cameron-Creole Watershed

#### JOHNNIE TARVER

3. Experimental Alligator Harvest Program Marsh Island Discussion 1989-1990 Proposal

#### BOB DENNIE

4. Resolution, Notice of Intent - Free Fishing Days June 9-10, 1990 Page 2 March 22, 1990

#### JERRY CLARK

- 5. Proposed Black Drum Management Plan
- 6. Ratification of Calcasieu Sanctuaries
- 7. Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas
- 8. Trends in Recreational/Commercial Fishing, A State-ofthe-State Report on Marine Fisheries

#### **HUGH BATEMAN**

9. Notice of Intent - Resident Game Hunting Regulations Proposals, 1990-91

#### WINTON VIDRINE

10. Monthly Law Enforcement Report

#### VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE

11. Secretary's Report to the Commission

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

12. Set June and July Meeting Dates

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

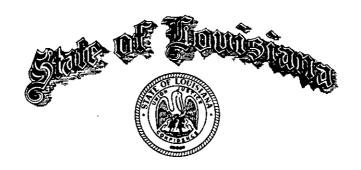
C: Don Puckett
Kell McInnis
Bettsie Baker
Jerry Clark
Wade Byrd
John Medica
Division Chiefs

#### DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES



Virginia Van Sickle SECRETARY

Straion debare asked stoff members to add items to the agenda. I copied you w/ shore memos. Be sur each of the items is on this agenda a Daniel allyston Rawest



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE SECRETARY

# DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES POST OFFICE BOX 98000 BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898 PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER GOVERNOR

March 22, 1990

#### MEMORANDUM

TO:

Chairman and Members of Commission

FROM:

Virginia Van Sickle

RE:

April Board Meeting

The next regular public board meeting as set by the Commission will be at 2:00 PM on Thursday, April 5th, 1990, in the Louisiana Room at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

On Friday, April 6th, 1990, the regular Commission meeting will be continued at the same location at 9:00 AM .

The following will be on the agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes of March 5-6, 1990

#### NORMAN MCCALL

2. Clarification of Boundary Lines of the Sanctuaries in Calcasieu Lake trong 5 to the Sanctuaries and JOHNNIE TARVER

3. Experimental Alligator Harvest Program Marsh Island Discussion 1989-1990 Proposal

#### BOB DENNIE

 Resolution, Notice of Intent - Free Fishing Days June 9-10, 1990 Page 2 March 22, 1990

#### JERRY CLARK

- 5. Proposed Black Drum Management Plan
- 6. Ratification of Calcasieu Sanctuaries
- 7. Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas
- 8. Trends in Recreational/Commercial Fishing, A State-ofthe-State Report on Marine Fisheries

#### HUGH BATEMAN

9. Notice of Intent - Resident Game Hunting Regulations Proposals, 1990-91

#### WINTON VIDRINE

10. Monthly Law Enforcement Report

#### VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE

11. Secretary's Report to the Commission

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

12. Set June and July Meeting Dates

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

C: Don Puckett
Kell McInnis
Bettsie Baker
Jerry Clark
Wade Byrd
John Medica
Division Chiefs

March 26, 1990

#### AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

On Thursday, April 5th, 1990 the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting in the Louisiana Room, Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

On Friday, April 6th, 1990 the Commission meeting will be continued at the same location 9:00 A.M.

The following items will be on the agenda:

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Approval of Minutes of March 1-2, 1990
- 3. Experimental Alligator Harvest Program Marsh Island Discussion 1989-1990 Proposal
- 4. Resolution, Notice of Intent Free Fishing Days June 9 10, 1990
- 5. Proposed Black Drum Management Plan
  - ed Black Drum Management Plan
- 6. Ratification of Calcasieu Sanctuaries
  7. Notice of Intent. Restriction of Transle
- 7. Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas
- 8. Trends in Recreational/Commercial Fishing, A State-ofthe-State Report on Marine Fisheries
- 9. Notice of Intent Resident Game Hunting Regulations Proposal, 1990
- 10. Monthly Law Enforcement Report
- 11. Set Date for Joint Commission Meeting with Texas Parks and Wildlife
- 12. Secretary's Report to the Commission
- 13. Set June and July Meeting Dates
- 14. Executive Session Cooper et. al. versus LDWF

OTHER BUSINESS:

RECEIVED



MAR - 5 1990

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES POST OFFICE BOX 98000 BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898 PHONE (504) 765-2800

**BUDDY ROEMER** GOVERNOR

March 5, 1990

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Deputy Secretary, Assistant Secretary Office of

Fisheries, Undersecretary and Office of Wildlife Chiefs

FROM:

Virginia Van Sickle

RE:

Commission Meeting Agenda - April 5-6, 1990

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Sharyn Bateman by Monday, March 19th, any agenda items your Office may have for the meeting in Baton Rouge, LA at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, Quail Drive on Thursday and Friday, April 5-6 1990. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo and indicate this on the bottom of this memo. - We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda.

Thank you for your cooperation!

WVS/sb

C: Don Puckett Bob Dennie

on the operation!

I have nothing.

Sorry I am 10 large

late. I am usually

3-4 weeks behind.

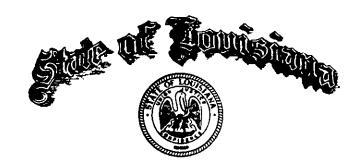
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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

## OFFICE OF FISHERIES Routing Slip

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VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE SECRETARY DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000

BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER GOVERNOR

March 5, 1990

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Deputy Secretary, Assistant Secretary Office of

Fisheries, Undersecretary and Office of Wildlife Chiefs

FROM:

Virginia Van Sickle

RE:

Commission Meeting Agenda - April 5-6, 1990

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Sharyn Bateman by Monday, March 19th, any agenda items your Office may have for the meeting in Baton Rouge, LA at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, Quail Drive on Thursday and Friday, April 5-6 1990. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo and indicate this on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda.

Thank you for your cooperation!

3-15-90

VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett Bob Dennie Jerry

- Proposed black dum management plan

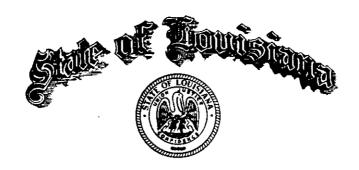
- Proposed black dum management plan

- Ratification of Calcasieu sanctuaries

- up date on black drum and sported

sea trout quotas

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VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE SECRETARY DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
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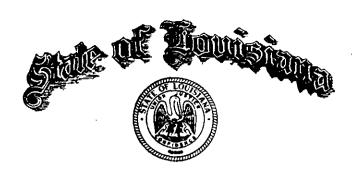
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VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett Bob Dennie Hotice of Intent - Resident Come Hunting Regulations Proposents, 1990-91 H. Barteman



## RECEIVED

MAR 6

INFORMATION & EDUCATION DIV.

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE SECRETARY DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000

BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
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3/6 Mathan G. - Holice of Intent & attachments for Free Frishing Days - June 9-10. Paul Jackson will present.

Thank you for your cooperation!

VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett

Bob Dennie



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES POST OFFICE BOX 98000 BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898 PHONE (504) 765-2800

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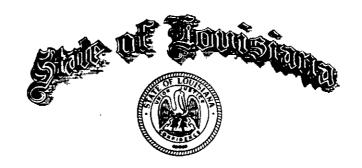
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De Kepott 1.1. Valuez, 2.90

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VVS/sb

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VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE SECRETARY

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C: Don Puckett

Experimental alligator Harvest Program & REFUGE BATON ROUGE

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And Mr. O 1.90 Mash Island

Mr. O 1.90 Mash Island

Experimental alligator Harvest Programmes

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Mr. O 1.90 Mash Island

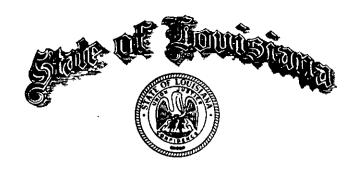
Experimental alligator Harvest Programmes

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Settsie



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE SECRETARY DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
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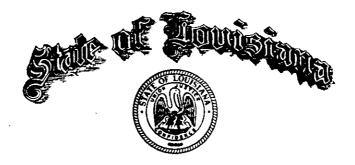
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wind

Thank you for your cooperation!

VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett Bob Dennie



Karl

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE SECRETARY DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
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BUDDY ROEMER GOVERNOR

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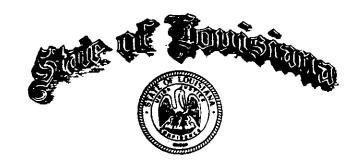
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C: Don Puckett

Bob Dennie

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ÉMPLOYER



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES POST OFFICE BOX 98000 **BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898** PHONE (504) 765-2800

**BUDDY ROEMER** GOVERNOR

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Fisheries, Undersecretary and Office of Wildlife Chiefs

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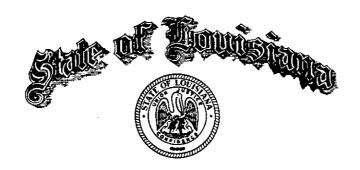
C:

Don Puckett Bob Dennie

Anland fish Dursin Fourtenst

I have no item for the April 5-6 Agenda Thurs

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOY



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE SECRETARY

# DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES POST OFFICE BOX 98000 BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898 PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER GOVERNOR

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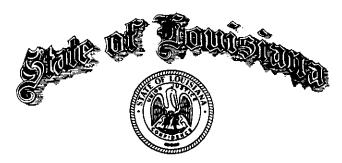
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VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett

Bob Dennie

Sharon Batemar Clark



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE SECRETARY WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION JAMES H. JENKINS, JR.-MEMBER POST OFFICE BOX 15279 BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70895 504/927-1760

BUDDY ROEMER GOVERNOR

March 12, 1990

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries Post Office Box 98000 Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000

Re: April Commission Meeting

Dear Virginia;

As you and I discussed at the Monroe meeting, there is a lot of useful information in Dr. Clark's "state of the state report."

The "trend in recreational/commercial fishing" was very interesting and I think you suggested some update information be included in his report.

Please place this item on the April agenda. Hopefully more interested people will be able to listen to this report in Baton Rouge than were in Monroe.

Very truly yours,

J.H. Jerkins,Jr.

cc: Warren I. Pol, Chairman

JHJ:mek

MAP 19 ATT: 43

McCALLS BOAT RENTALS, INC.

Shown Botteron Clarke McInnis

OFFSHORE BOAT RENTALS
P.O. Box 398 Street Cameron, LA 70631
PHONE: 318-775-5485

3-14-90

Ms. Virginia Van Sickle Secretary Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries P.O.Box 98000 Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000

Dear Virginia:

It has come to my attention in the past few days that their is some confusion over the boundary lines of the sanctuaries in Calcasieu Lake.

Would you place this on next months agenda, so that we can clarify this.

Sincerely yours,

Norman McCall

P.S.

Attended a meeting and meal last night put on by Miami Corp. in Creole, LA. A man at one table, Mr. Forrest K. Doity from Lafayette, made the following remark. He was happy to see a commission and secretary trying and doing some positive things and not playing politics. He went on to say its a hell of a lot better than under Bert Angelle, afterwards he was introduced to me by Fats Dupont. He didn't know I was member before he made the statement. Good to hear these types of remarks.

MACCENTO MILL 4

### Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

## **NEWS RELEASE**

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE Secretary



CONTACT (504) 765-2917

90-46

April 2, 1990

#### UPDATED AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

On Thursday, April 5, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting at 2 p.m. at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Dr., in Baton Rouge.

On Friday, April 6, the Commission meeting will continue at 9 a.m. at the same location.

The following items will be on the agenda:

- 1. Roll call.
- 2. Approval of minutes of March 1-2.
- Clarification of boundaries of Calcasieu Sanctuaries and ratification of rule.
- 4. Notice of Intent, restriction of trawling and netting in Cameron -- Creole Watershed.
- 5. Experimental Alligator Harvest Program, Marsh Island discussion, 1989-90 proposal.
- 6. Resolution, Notice of Intent -- Free Fishing Days, June 9-10.
- 7. Notice of Intent, Black Drum Management Plan.
- 8. Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas.
- 9. Trends in recreational/commercial fishing, a state-of-the-state report on marine fisheries.
- 10. Monthly law enforcement report.
- 11. Notice of Intent, Resident Game Hunting Regulations Proposals, 1990.
- 12. Set date for joint commission meeting with Texas Parks and Wildlife.
- 13. Secretary's report to the Commission.
- Set June and July meeting dates.
- 15. Executive session -- Cooper et. al. versus LDWF.

OTHER BUSINESS.

PUBLIC COMMENTS.

### Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

# **NEWS RELEASE**

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE Secretary



CONTACT (504) 765-2917

90-43

3/28/90

#### AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 5, at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building on Quail Dr. in Baton Rouge. On Friday, April 6, the commission will resume its regular meeting at 9a.m. at the same location.

The following items will be on the agenda:

- 1. Roll call.
- 2. Approval of minutes of March 1-2.
- 3. Experimental Alligator Harvest Program, Marsh Island discussion, 1989-90 proposal.
- 4. Resolution, Notice of Intent Free Fishing Days, June 10.
- 5. Proposed Black Drum Management Plan.
- 6. Clarification of boundaries of Calcasieu Sanctuaries and ratification of rule.
- 7. Notice of Intent, restriction of trawling in Cameron Creole Watershed.
- 8. Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout quotas.
- Trends in recreational/commercial fishing, a state-ofthe-state report on marine fisheries.
- 10. Notice of Intent Resident Game Hunting Regulations proposal.
- 11. Monthly law enforcement report.
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- Executive Session Cooper et. al. versus LDWF.

OTHER BUSINESS.

PUBLIC COMMENTS.

#### FREE FISHING DAYS

The concept of Free Fishing Days, or a day you can go fishing without a license, was started in Oklahoma in 1982. Every year more states pass legislation allowing a day or two to introduce new people to fishing or to remind those who haven't been in a while what they are missing.

Twenty five states will hold a free fishing day this year. Not all of the states have selected the specific dates for their free fishing day(s) and are listed as dates pending. Interested individuals can contact the state late this spring for the dates. Other states have introduced legislation requesting authorization to offer the free fishing day(s). Before participating in a free fishing day, it is important to check with the state fish and wildlife agency for specific regulations that might apply.

The following states will offer free fishing day(s) in 1989:

Arizona June 10 Noon June 9 to midnight June 11 Arkansas California Dates pending June 10 Connecticut District of Columbia Dates pending Georgia Dates pending June 10 Idaho June 9, 10 & 11 Illinois Iowa June 9, 10 & 11 Kentucky Dates pending Dates pending June 24 & 25 Louisiana Massachusetts Michigan June 10 & 11 June 10 & 11 Minnesota June 10 & 11 Missouri June 10 Nevada June 10 & 11 New Jersey June 10 & 11 Oklahoma June 10 & 11 Pennsylvania Rhode Island June 3 & 4 South Dakota May 20 & 21 Utah June 10 June 3 & 4 Virginia Washington June 10 & 11 Wisconsin June 3 & 4

The following states have pending legislation: Alabama, Colorado, Delaware, Kansas, Maine, West Virginia, New Hampshire, Oregon, and Vermont.

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### Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

## **NEWS RELEASE**

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE Secretary



CONTACT (504) 763-2917

90-48

April 4, 1990

#### REVISED AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING, APRIL 4-5

On Thursday, April 5, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting at 1 p.m. at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Dr., in Baton Rouge.

The following items will be on the agenda at 1 p.m.:

- 1. Roll call.
- Executive session -- Cooper et. al. versus LDWF.

The following items will be on the agenda at 2 p.m.:

- Approval of minutes of March 1-2.
- Clarification of boundaries of Calcasieu Sanctuaries and ratification of rule.
- Notice of Intent, restriction of trawling and netting in Cameron --Creole Watershed.
- Experimental Alligator Harvest Program, Marsh Island discussion, 1989-90 proposal.
- 7. Resolution, Notice of Intent -- Free Fishing Days, June 9-10.
- 8. Notice of Intent, Black Drum Management Plan.
- 9. Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout quotas.
- 10. Trends in recreational/commercial fishing, a state-of-the-state report on marine fisheries.
  \* Friday morning only
- 11. Monthly law enforcement report.
- 12. Notice of Intent, Resident Game Hunting Regulations Proposals, 1990.
- 13. Set date for joint Commission meeting with Texas Parks and Wildlife.
- Secretary's report to the Commission.
- Sef June and July meeting dates.

OTHER BUSINESS.

PUBLIC COMMENTS.

On Friday, April 6, the Commission meeting will continue at 9 a.m. at the same location.

#### Notice of Intent

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to adopt rules and regulations establishing size limits, quotas and special license requirements for the harvest of black drum.

The proposed black drum measures are as follows:

Title 76
Wildlife and Fisheries
Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

Section 331. Black Drum Size Limits, Daily Take and Possession Limits, Quotas and Special Permit Requirements.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the following rules and regulations for the taking of black drum (<u>Pogonias cromis</u>):

The daily take and possession limit for black drum caught recreationally within or without Louisiana waters shall be five (5) fish per day and in possession.

The minimum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be sixteen (16) inches total length.

The maximum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be twenty-seven (27) inches total length; provided however that recreational fishermen shall be allowed to take and possess one black drum per day over twenty-seven (27) inches. It is provided further that commercial fishermen, when in possession of a "Special Black Drum Permit", shall be allowed to take and possess black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches in unlimited quantities until the annual quota has been met.

The annual commercial quota for sixteen (16) to twenty-seven (27) inch black drum shall be 3,250,000 pounds.

The annual commercial quota for black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches shall be 300,000 fish.

The fishing year for black drum shall begin on September 1, 1990 and every September 1st thereafter.

A "Special Black Drum Permit" shall be annually required for persons commercially taking black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches and each "Special Black Drum Permit" holder shall on or before the tenth of each month make a return to the department on forms provided or approved for the purpose, the number of black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches taken commercially during the preceding month.

Once the black drum commercial quota(s) has been met; the purchase, barter, trade or sale of black drum taken in Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. The commercial taking or landing of black drum in Louisiana, whether caught within or without the territorial waters of Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. Nothing in this rule shall be deemed to prohibit the possession of fish legally taken prior to the closure order.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall, by public notice, close the commercial fishery(s) for black drum when the quota(s) has been met or is projected to be met. The closure shall not take effect for at least seventy-two (72) hours after notice to the public.

Authority for adoption of this rule is contained in Sections 6(10), 326.1 and 326.3 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to: John E. Roussel, Marine Fish Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898-9000.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with 56:6(10)326.1, 326.3. HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: ( ).

Warren I. Pol Chairman

## FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Person Prepar States	ring	John Roussel	Dept:	Wildlife and Fisheries					
Phone	:	(504) 765-2383	Office:	<u>Fisheries</u>					
Return Addre		La. Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries P.O. Box 98000 Baton Rouge, LA 70898	Rule Title: Date Rule Takes Eff						
		St (Use compl	MMARY ete senten	ces)					
submi or am	tted a endmen	fiscal and economic impact stat	ement on t ents, base	iana Revised Statutes, there is hereby he rule proposed for adoption, repeal d on the attached worksheets, will be agency rule.					
I. (Summ		ATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVIN	GS) TO STA	TE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS					
	The proposed rule will not result in increased expenditures of funds, however it will require some reprogramming of existing manpower to issue the "Special Permits" and monitor the commercial quotas.								
II. (Summ		ATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTION	NS OF STAT	E OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS					
	The commercial and recreational fishery for black drum is economically important to the State of Louisiana, however there is no method for quantifying its contribution to state or local governmental revenues. The proposed rule may have a short-term negative impact by discouraging participation in the fishery, but should have a long-term positive impact by ensuring the continued health of the black drum fishery.								
III.	ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)								
	There will be no costs to directly affected persons or non-governmental groups, however the proposed rule should result in positive long-term economic benefits.								
IV.	. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)								
	The proposed rule may increase competition and decrease employment in the short-term, however employment should increase over the long-term.								
Signat	ture o	f Agency Head or Designee	LEGIS	LATIVE FISCAL OFFICER OR DESIGNEE					
Typed	Name a	and Title of Agency Head or Desig	gnee						
Date o	of Sign	nature	Date (	of Signature					

o starte de la

## FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

The following information is required in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberations on the proposed rule.

A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

The proposed rule establishes a daily take and possession limit of 5 fish for black drum caught recreationally, a minimum legal size of 16 inches and a maximum legal size of 27 inches for fish caught recreationally or commercially and an annual commercial quota of 3,250,000 pounds for fish 16 inches - 27 inches. The proposed rule also allows for the following exceptions: recreational fishermen may take and possess 1 fish over 27 inches and commercial fishermen when in possession of a special black drum permit may take black drum over 27 inches until the annual quota of 300,000 fish has been caught. The proposed rule also sets the fishing year to begin on September 1 and provides that special black drum permit holders must report their catch of fish over 27 inches monthly.

B. Summarize the circumstances which require this action. If the action is required by federal regulations, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

The harvest of black drum has grown dramatically in recent years and continued harvest at these levels could threaten the long-term health of the black drum stocks. Under the proposed management measures, fishing mortality rates would be stabilized at levels which will maintain an age structure which will ensure a healthy fishery in the future.

- C. Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session
  - (1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

The proposed rule will not result in increased expenditure of funds, however it will require some reprogramming of existing manpower to issue the "Special Permits" and monitor the commercial quotas.

(2)	If the ans	swer to (1)	above i	s yes, has	the Legisla	ture specifically	appropriated
	the funds	necessary	for the	associated	expenditure	e increase?	
		_					

Yes. If yes, attach documentation.
 No. If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time.

#### FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

#### WORKSHEET

I.	Α.	COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED
	1.	What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in costs to implement the proposed

COSTS FY 89-90 FY 90-91 FY 91-92

PERSONAL SERVICES
OPERATING EXPENSES
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
OTHER CHARGES
EQUIPMENT

TOTAL 0 0 0

MAJOR REPAIR & CONSTR.

POSITIONS (#)

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A.1.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

The proposed rule will require the issuance of "Special Black Drum Permits", the development of a procedure for projecting the commercial quotas, the development of monthly reporting forms to be used by the permit holders and the processing of the reporting forms to monitor the commercial quotas.

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

SOURCE \_\_\_\_ FY 89-90 FY 90-91 FY 91-92

. •

0

STATE GENERAL FUND AGENCY SELF-GENERATED DEDICATED FEDERAL FUNDS OTHER (Specify)

TOTAL

action?

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

The agency has sufficient funds by reprogramming existing funds and manpower.

0

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- B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.
- 1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

The proposed rule should have no impact on local governmental units.

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit which will be affected by these costs or savings.

Local governmental units will require no additional sources of funding.

#### FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

#### WORKSHEET

#### II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

Α.	What increase	(decrease) in	revenues can	be anticipated	from the proposed act	ion?
REVENUE INCR	EASE/DECREASE	FY 89-90	FY	90-91	FY 91-92	
STATE GENERA	L FUND	•				
AGENCY SELF-	GENERATED					
RESTRICTED F	UNDS*					
FEDERAL FUND	S					
LOCAL FUNDS					:	

\*Specify the particular fund being impacted.

B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

There is no method for quantifying the increase or decrease in revenues as a result of the proposed rule. However, the commercial and recreational fishery for black drum is economically important to the State of Louisiana. The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries' Black Drum Management Plan presented information which suggest that the commercial black drum fishery had an average annual economic impact from 1980-1989 of in excess of 2.5 million dollars. This document also estimated gross expenditures by the recreational black drum fishery as from 4.2 to 10.7 million dollars annually. The proposed measures may have a short-term negative impact by discouraging participation in the fishery, but should have a long-term positive impact by ensuring the continued health of the black drum fishery.

#### FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

#### WORKSHEET

#### III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

A. What persons or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

Recreational and commercial fishermen will be directly affected by the proposed rule. There should be no effect on costs or workload adjustments, however permit holders will be required to complete additional paperwork in the form of monthly reporting forms.

B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

There should be no long-term impacts on receipts and/or income resulting from the proposed rule, although there may be some short-term negative impacts.

#### IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

The proposed rule may increase competition and decrease employment in the short-term, however employment should increase over the long-term.



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE SECRETARY

# DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES POST OFFICE BOX 98000 BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898 PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER GOVERNOR

March 7, 1990

Mr. Eric Wanner, President Russell Sage Foundation 112 East 64th Street New York, New York 10021

Dear Eric:

Two documents are enclosed for your review that deal with alligators on Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge:

- (1) 1989 Experimental Alligator Harvest Program on Marsh Island Refuge and
- (2) 1990 Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge Experimental Alligator Harvest Proposal.

The 1989 report details the results of last years harvest, while the 1990 proposal outlines our objectives in continuing this important scientific endeavor. Public comment will be solicited at the April meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

Please review these documents and I will be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely

ohnnie W./Tarver

Administrator

Fur and Refuge Division

JWT:dsg

xc: James Manning Greg Linscombe Richard House

HAR 1 3 90

EFUGE ROUGE

# 1990 Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge Experimental Alligator Harvest Proposal

Submitted by

Noel Kinler Dave Taylor Greg Linscombe

6 March 1990

# 1990 Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge Experimental Alligator Harvest Proposal

#### Introduction

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has conducted alligator research on Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge since 1981. This research program included night counts, nest counts, growth rates, movement and sex ratios. In 1986 this research program was expanded to include an annual experimental harvest. This harvest program was designed to collect data that would allow for better estimation of alligator populations. Knowledge of the population dynamics of alligators is necessary when calculating harvest quotas and would ensure that no segment of the population would be subject to overharvest as harvest quotas are increased. Emphasis has been placed on obtaining information on production rates, sex ratios, size class frequency distribution and accurate nest counts.

During 1986, 1987, 1988 and 1989 a total of 5,206 alligators (54% males and 46% females) were harvested (Kinler et al. 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990). Of all adult (≥6') alligators harvested, males comprised 49% while females comprised 51%. In the immature size classes males comprised 67% while females contributed only 33%. As a group, adults comprised 65% of the total harvest. The size class frequency distribution of all alligators harvested on Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge by baited hook and line harvest technique is listed in Table 1.

Sex ratios of harvested adult alligators have varied by harvest segment within years and by years of harvest. In 1986 the sex ratio of the adult segment of the harvest changed from 59M:41F (April-May) to 44M:56F (July). In July and August 1987, the sex ratio was 32M:67F. In 1989 the sex ratio of adult alligators harvested was 22M:78F in May and 51M:49F in July. When all years are combined the sex ratio of adults does not differ from 50M:50F. Knowledge of the relationship between the number of male and female adult alligators is critical when attempting to accurately estimate alligator populations. Therefore, we need to add to this database by continuation of this important harvest program.

Sex ratio of the immature alligators harvested on Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge have remained consistent from 1986 to 1989 (67M:33F). Live capture of alligators for growth rate information has yielded a sex ratio of 55M:45F. The abrupt change in sex ratios of harvested adult and immature alligators requires further study.

Continuation of this experimental harvest is necessary to further our ability to better understand and estimate alligator populations. This database of information will allow the La. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries to better manage this valuable renewable resource. This proposal details the objectives and procedures for the 1990 experimental harvest program on Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- To collect reproductive data to determine the proportion of adult-sized females (≥ 6 feet) nesting annually. Also to determine reproductive rates as related to marsh management units on Marsh Island (weired marsh, natural marsh and impoundment).
- 2) To evaluate an alternate time of annual harvest with the intent of changing the sex ratio in the harvest as compared to fall harvests. Also to evaluate size-class ratios in summer harvested alligators.
- 3) To evaluate the accuracy of a calculated optimum harvest rate.
- 4) To collect femurs from selected alligators to evaluate age structure of the population.

#### **PROCEDURES**

#### Harvest Quotas

Data collected from the 1986-89 experimental harvests were used to calculate a harvest quota for the 1990 harvest (Fig. 1). Since the beginning of this harvest program all available data has been used to estimate numbers of alligators present on Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge and subsequently to calculate a harvest quota. Alligator nest count data from 1986-1989, nesting rate data from 1986-1989 and sex ratio and size class frequency distribution data from the 5,206 alligators harvested from Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge has been combined to calculate the 1990 quota. The 1990

quota is 1000 alligators. These alligators will be harvested in May and July 1990.

#### Selection of Hunters

A total of 16 hunters and 5 alternates will be selected for the experimental harvest. Each hunter will harvest approximately 32 alligators each segment. Preference will be given to the individuals with previous trapping and/or alligator hunting experience on Marsh Island. Other hunters will be selected by screening applications (Fig. 2), using the criteria listed below, and then drawing names.

- Previous trapping and/or alligator hunting experience on Marsh Island Refuge.
- 2) Previous alligator hunting experience in Louisiana.
- 3) Ownership of essential equipment for alligator hunting on Marsh Island. Due to the location and topography of Marsh Island Refuge each hunter will need two boats.
  - a) Minimum 18' hull to cross the open water of Vermilion Bay on a daily basis.
  - b) A small boat (small flat, mudboat, etc.) to hunt the interior bayous and ponds.
- 4) Each applicant will be required to report to the refuge each morning until his quota is filled (no exceptions allowed).
- 5) Ability to follow specific instructions issued by Department personnel.
- 6) Ability to maintain required records.

7) All applicants will be checked for past wildlife violations. Any applicant possessing a wildlife violation in the past 5 years will be rejected.

All hunters will be required to sign and abide by an alligator hunting contract (Fig. 3).

#### Unit Assignments

Hunters will be assigned to specific units on Marsh Island. Assignment of hunting units will be done by a drawing. Hunting units will be distributed throughout the refuge so that hunting success, reproductive rates and size-class data can be evaluated by habitat types.

#### Harvest Date

The 1990 experimental harvest will begin on May 1 with the second segment beginning July 11. The May segment will last 7 days while the July segment will continue on a daily basis until the quota is completed or until specified by Department officials. Assessment of economic feasibility for the Department, the purchaser, and the hunter will also be considered.

#### Harvest Methods

The base quota of 1,000 alligators will be harvested by the baited hook and line (fishing) method. The daily harvest quota for each hunter will be regulated as needed.

#### Sale of Alligators

As in previous years, these alligators will be sold to the highest bidder. Sale of these alligators will be advertised and bids solicited from alligator buyers and dealers.

#### Data Collection

All alligators will be brought to the refuge headquarters and loaded onto the transport boat. The following data will be collected:

- 1) Alligator hide tag numbers
- 2) Length (feet and inches)
- 3) Sex and weight
- 4) Location where the alligator is captured
- 5) Obvious mutilations (i.e., cuts, bobtails, missing legs) will be recorded.

Fur and Refuge Division personnel will analyze reproductive tracts from the May and July harvest segments for reproductive condition and collect selected femurs immediately after the alligators are skinned. After completion of the 1990 harvest, data will be entered into a computer for analysis.

#### LITERATURE CITED

KINLER, N., D. TAYLOR, AND G. LINSCOMBE. 1987. 1986 Experimental alligator harvest program on Marsh Island Refuge.

Mimeograph Report. 27 pp.

- program on Marsh Island Refuge. Mimeograph Report. 24 pp.
- alligator harvest proposal. Mimeograph Report. 7 pp.
- program on Marsh Island Refuge. Mimeograph Report. 20 pp.

Table 1. Size class frequency distribution by sex of alligators harvested by baited hook and line (fishing) method on Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge (1986-1989).

Size Class	Males No. %		Females No. %		Total No. %	
2 '	2		1	<del>_</del>	3	( 0.1)
3'	63	( 2.5)	49	( 2.3)	112	( 2.4)
4 '	374	(15.0)	169	(8.0)	543	(11.7)
51	425	(16.9)	238	(11.2)	663	(14.3)
6 <b>'</b>	360	(14.3)	627	(29.5)	987	(21.3)
7'	262	(10.4)	769	(36.2)	1031	(22.2)
81	211	(8.4)	260	(12.2)	471	(10.2)
91	287	(11.4)	11	( 0.6)	298	(6.4)
10'	374	(14.9)	0	-	374	( 8.1)
11'	145	(5.8)	0	-	145	( 3.1)
12'	9	( 0.4)	0	-	9	( 0.2)
13'	1	_	0	-	1	
Total	2513	(55.0)	2124	(45.0)	4637	

Figure 1. Data and calculation utilized to establish the harvest quota for the 1990 Marsh Island Experimental Alligator Harvest Program.

#### CALCULATIONS FOR 1990 QUOTA

Size class frequency distribution in Marsh Island harvests

1986-89 M.I. harvest data

The 1990 harvest quota is based upon the average nest density and the associated number of adult size females within the population.

#### Calculations

- 1. If 25.3% of  $\geq$  6 feet females produced 606 nests; then 606  $\div$  .253 = 2,395 total females  $\geq$  6 feet in length.
- 2. 2,395 x 20% harvest rate on  $\geq$  6 feet females = 479 tags for  $\geq$  6 feet females (Taylor and Neal 1984).
- 3. If  $\geq$  6' females = 35% of harvest (1986-89 data) then:  $479 \div .35 = 1,370$  total tags.
- 4. 1,370 27% (reduction for potential errors in data) = 1,000 harvest quota.

Figure 2. Hunter application form that will be utilized for the 1990 Marsh Island Experimental Alligator Harvest Program.

## ALLIGATOR HUNTING APPLICATION MARSH ISLAND EXPERIMENTAL HARVEST 1990

Applications must be in by April 2, 1990 (no exceptions).

NAME:	PHONE: Home		Office
STREET:	CITY:	_ STATE:	ZIP
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER:	DATE (	of BIRTH:	
Please provide the following infor YEAR: 1989 Landowner (Name):		-	
Phone: Home			
Number of tags issued N			
Please provide the same information on			
YEAR: 1988 Landowner (Name):			
Phone: Home	Work		
Number of tags issuedN	lumber of tags used		
YEAR: 1987			
Landowner (Name):			<del></del>
Phone: Home	Work		
**************************************	on on the boats you ow	*****	
Category I: Minimum 18' for open water			
Boat Registration Numbers: LA			
Expiration Date: Length	Width		
Norsepower Type of Engine	<del></del>		
Category II: Small boat (flat boat, mo	ud boat, etc.) for hun	ting interi	or ponds and bayous.
Boat Registration Numbers: LA			
Expiration Date: Length	nWidth		
Horsepower Type of Engine			
Are you self-employed (check one) YES			******
If not self-employed provide the follo	<del></del>	•	•
Employer:	•		
Name	<del></del>	Address	;
Immediate Supervisor: Name			
Name			Telephone
I certify that the information I have that falsifications of this information removed from the eligible register and	provided in this applic	cation is a	rue. I understand rejected, my name
Signature			Date
RETURN APPLICATION TO: Louisiana Depa Fur & Refuge I	artment of Wildlife an Division	d Fisheries	,

Rt. 4, Box 78, Darnell Road New Iberia, LA 70560

Figure 3. Contract to be utilized between the

La. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries

and hunters participating in the

1990 Marsh Island Experimental Alligator

Harvest Program.

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

## CONTRACT FOR ALLICATOR HUNTING ON MARSH ISLAND REFUGE (1990)

NAME:	PHONE:
ADDRESS:	
Street or Box. No.	City or Town, Zip

I hereby agree to follow all the rules and regulations pertaining to Marsh Island Refuge and to alligator hunting.

Specifically I further understand that:

- No commercial fishing activity such as crab traps, trot lines, gill nets, or bush lines can be utilized on Marsh Island. Only sport fishing is allowed. No trawling is allowed within the boundaries of Marsh Island.
- 2) Firearms may be carried on to Marsh Island after clearance and registration with Departmental personnel. You may have the firearms in your possession only when you are checking your lines. Otherwise the firearms must remain at your camp, houseboat or shrimp boat. The firearms can be utilized only to kill alligators. No other type of wildlife (including blackbirds and grackles) are to be harmed in any way.
- 3) No nighttime activities will be allowed on Marsh Island unless specified by Departmental personnel. You may leave your camp or enter the Refuge at sunrise and you must return to your camp or leave the Refuge by sunset.
- 4) No littering of any kind will be allowed. You are responsible for proper disposal of all-garbage and trash for your camp, houseboat or shrimp boat.
- 5) Forty-five percent (45%) of the revenues derived from the sale of the whole alligators will go to the selected hunters and fifty-five percent (55%) will go to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.
- 6) Each hunter will have to keep records as specified by Departmental personnel. Each hunter will have to assist in loading, measuring, weighing, and icing alligators as specified by Departmental personnel.
- 7) Selected hunters will provide all of the equipment necessary for harvesting his quota of alligators. Lack of proper equipment or continued failure of equipment will be grounds for termination.
- 8) Each selected hunter will have to report to Marsh Island each morning (at daylight) until his monthly quota of tags is filled. Each selected hunter may have only one licensed helper present at anyone time, however this does not alleviate the responsibility of the selected hunter for being present on a daily basis.
- 9) Unless otherwise specified each hunter must take alligators only from his designated unit. Each hunter must proceed to his designated unit at daylight, remove alligators from the lines and return immediately to the headquarters facility. Each hunter must keep alligators cool by covering. Departmental personnel will specify a specific time by which all alligators must be delivered to headquarters facility.
- 10) Unless otherwise specified all alligators will be taken by the hook and line fishing technique. All alligators that are caught on the lines shall be taken. You must set lines so as to minimize the capture of alligators less than 4 feet long. However, no alligators may be cut loose from hooks and lines for purposes of selecting larger alligators. The number of lines to set will be regulated by Departmental personnel. Adjustment will be made as necessary, however each hunter shall have a quota of 5 alligators per day unless otherwise specified.
- 11) No type of wild birds or animals may be used for bait. You must supply your own bait and it should be of some type of domestic animal (beef melt, tallow or lung or poultry parts) or a commercial fish species.

- 12) Alligators must be ragged upon taking. Before you proceed to your next line, the alligator tag must be in place and fully locked.
- 13) Each selected hunter agrees to participate on a daily basis until officially released by Departmental personnel. The Department will hold a \$200.00 deposit from each hunter to ensure complete participation in this harvest. Each hunter agrees to forfeit this deposit if he chooses to quit hunting prior to being released by the Department.
- 14) Violation of any of these agreements by you or by your licensed helper will be grounds for cancellation of your alligator hunting privileges, revocation of all alligator tags and immediate removal from the area.
- 15) This contract becomes effective April 30, 1990 and terminates at project completion.

I have read the above and understand that by signing below I agree to the above terms.

	Alligator Helper Signature
	3 4 1
PROVED:La. Dept. of Wildlife and Fishe	ueries Date

## Concerned Crabbers of Louisiana, 'Inc.

Northshore Chapter P.O. Box 2440 Covington, La. 70434



April 6, 1990

Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission Wildlife & Fisheries Building Baton Rouge, La.

Dear Commissioners,

As President of the North Shore Chapter of Concerned Crabbers of Louisiana I'm presenting you with petitions requesting that your Department extend the one mile prohibition on shell dredging in Lake Pontchartrain to a three mile prohibition. These petitions were circulated in St. Tammany and Tangipahoa parishes and contain 8,744 names of concerned citizens of Louisiana, I would like for you to know that the majority of citizens signing this petition felt it should have read, abolish shell dredging completely, and many would not sign until it did.

We also have copies for you of resolutions of local governing bodies around the lake, police juries- parish councils - town and city councils- and from organizations such as the Louisiana Wildlife Federation, the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation, the Audubon Society and the League of Women Voters, all requesting either a halt to or further restricting shell dredging.

Although we realize that the shell dredging companies have a lot of money and a lot of pull in the state legislature and are lobbying there very hard, when thousands of people in one area all agree that this practice is destructive and want it stopped, this certainly should make a very clear statement.

We are not the bunch of tree huggers or ecomaniacs that the shell dredgers like to try to paint us. We are hard working, everyday people that are sick and tired of watching our lake being destroyed and fed up with officials that refuse to do anything about it. We have also had enough of an industry that blatantly ignores court orders to halt, ignores the will of the people and ignores scientific facts about the destruction they are doing. They have had not one, not two, not 3, 4, 5, or 66 but 7 violations in restricted zones in 30 days. There is proof of this on radar and Lorn-C tapes. Do you believe that if a commercial fisherman had seven repeated violations that he would still be fishing? I'll tell you where he'd be, he would be in jail.

According to your lease with shell dredgers, if they are in violation of restricted zones or if environmental impacts occur or threaten to occur, you have the right to suspend shell dredging operations. How much proof do you need before the buck stops passing back and forth between departments? We believe the buck stops here and are challenging you to do your job and stop shell dredging.

We do not stand here before you today without paying a price. I am constantly being called and asked what can we do about dredges that are deliberately destroying our crab traps right in front of us when we are running them. Apparently a food source has no value in this state. Until such a time that someone, somewhere in this state government has enough guts to stand up and stop shell dredging, as all other states have done, they will continue to run rough shod over the people and destroy our environment.

Everytime this department is called upon to stop shell dredging, all we hear is about a conflict of interest because of revenue. But meanwhile when commercial and recreational fishermen spend their hard earned dollars for licenses to fish in these areas, the department sees no conflict of interest because of revenues when it comes to restricting or stopping any method of fishing that it feels is wrong or threatening. I ask you, is not what's good for the goose good for the gander?

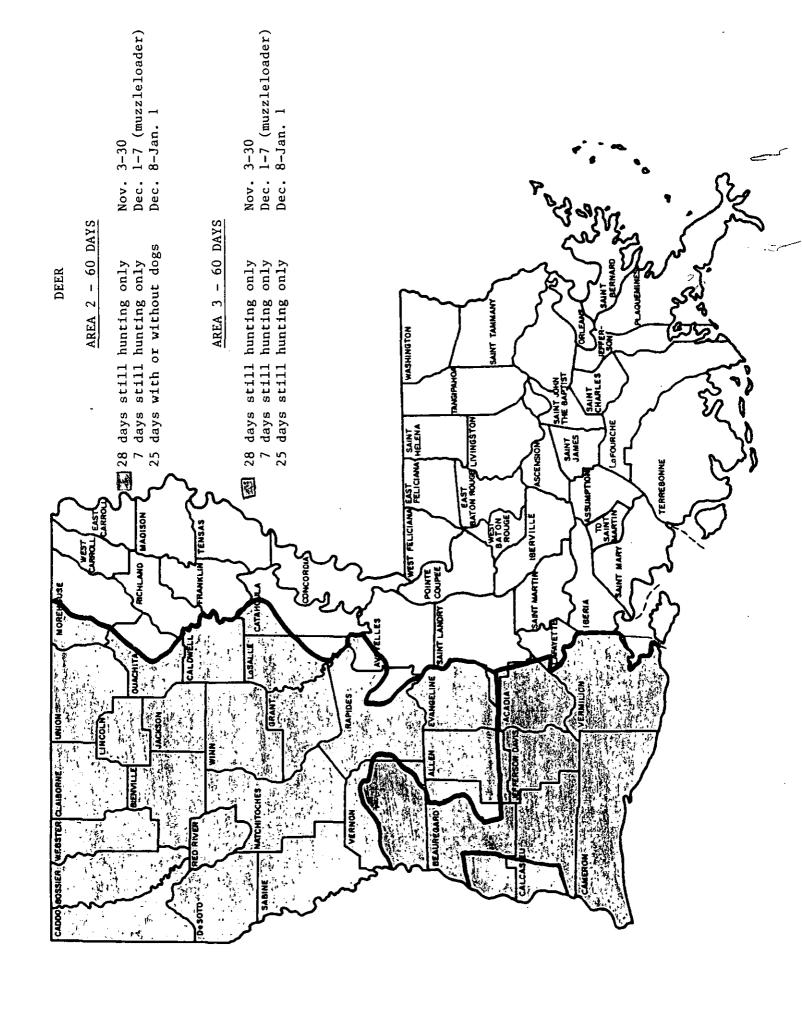
I would also like to address the fallacy of mitigation from the shell dredging companies. This is a joke and a slap in the face of the people's integrity. Under the guise of doing the people a justice by building fish reefs, they take clam shells from one place in the lake and put them in another. We won't be appeased or sno-balled by this stupidity. If they really want to do the people a justice, Just get out!

Sincerely, Connex Glockner

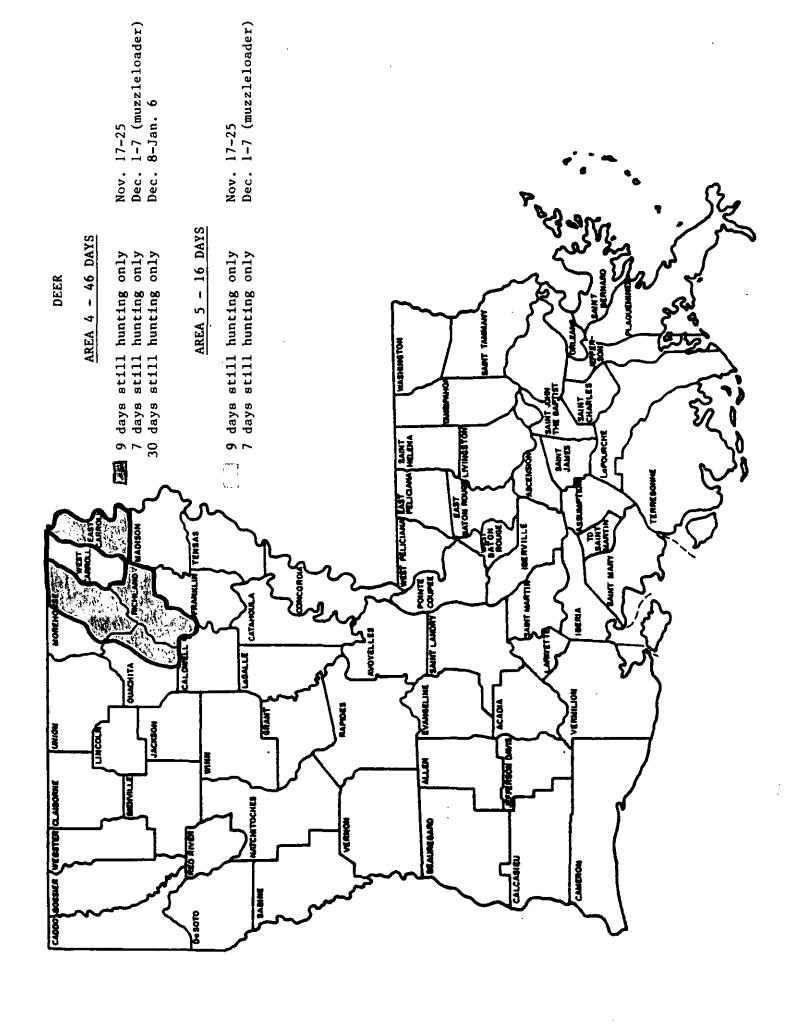
Connie Glockner

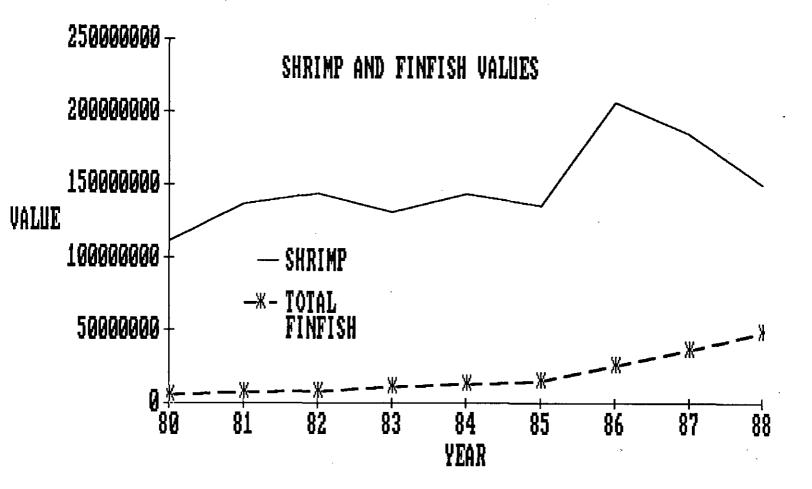
President

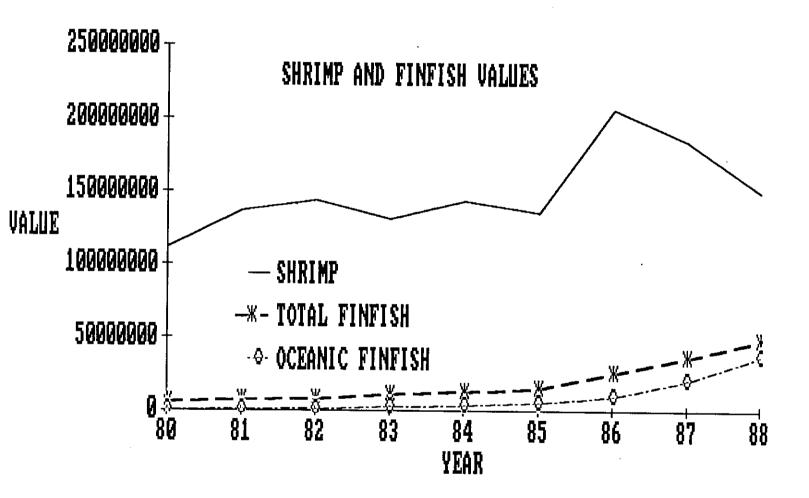
CC: The Honorable Buddy Roemer

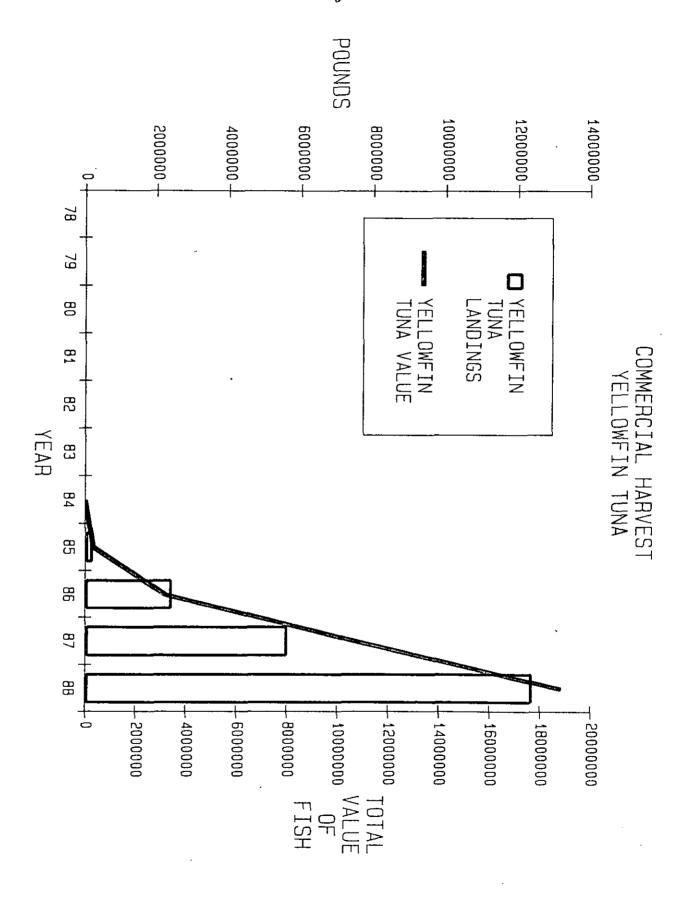


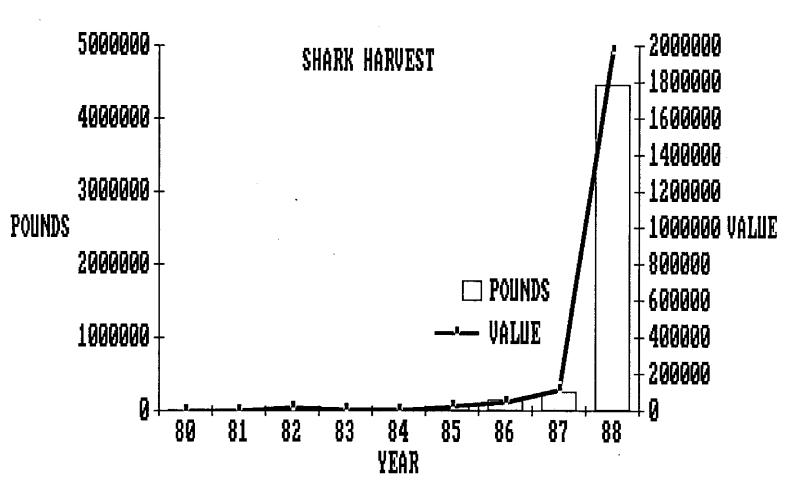
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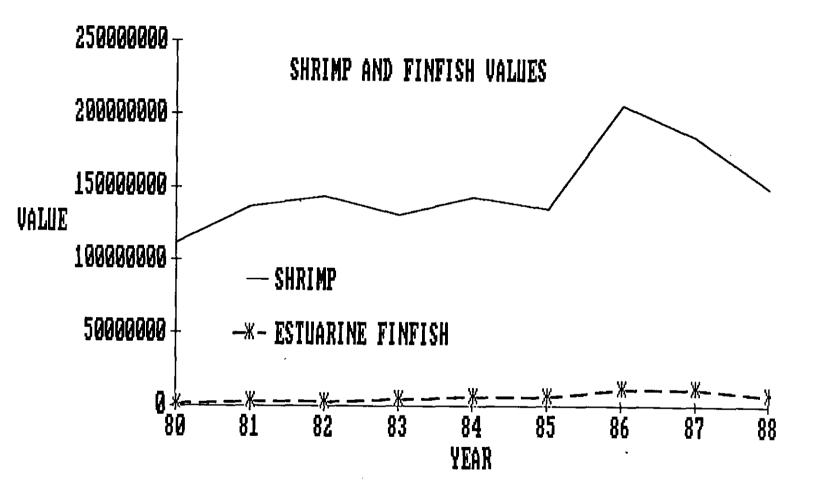


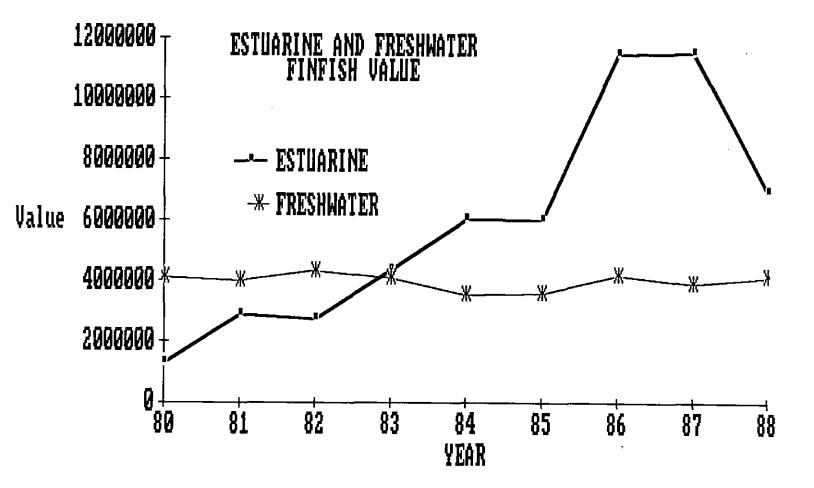




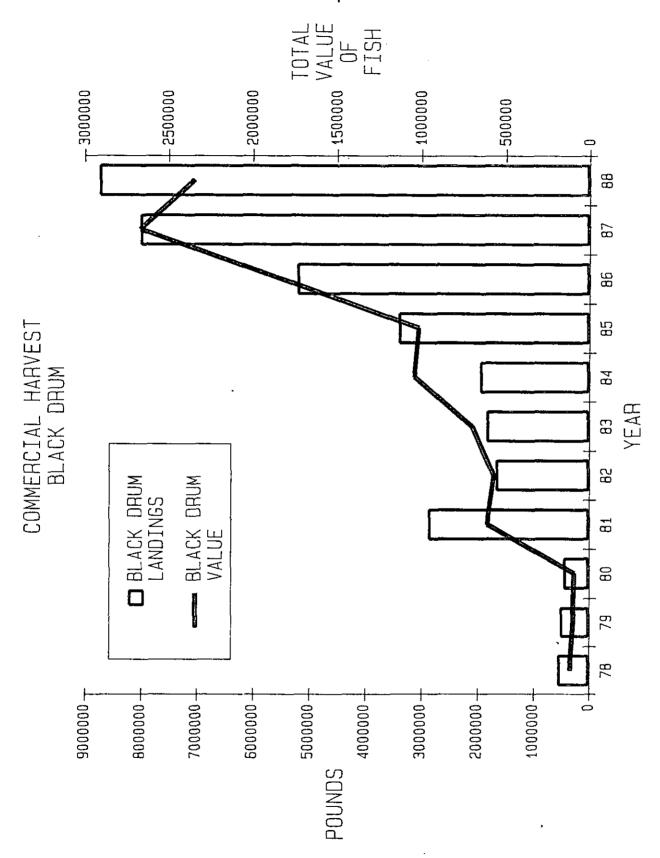


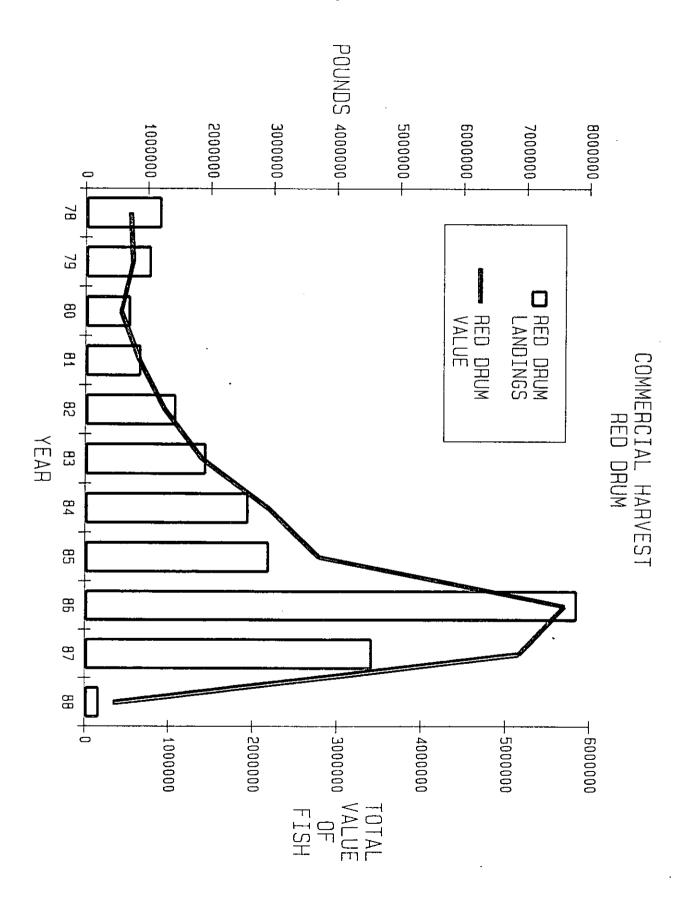


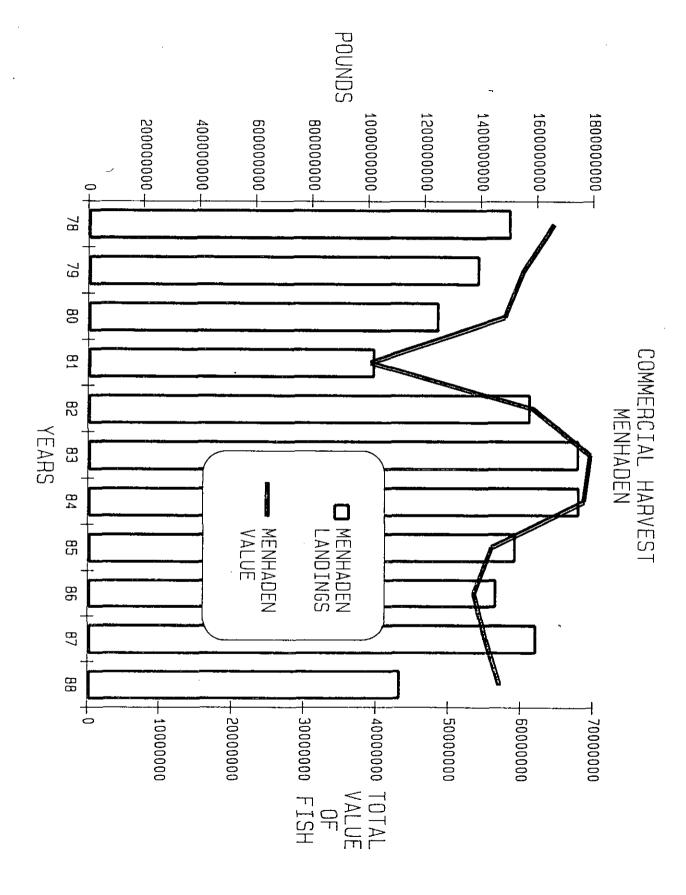


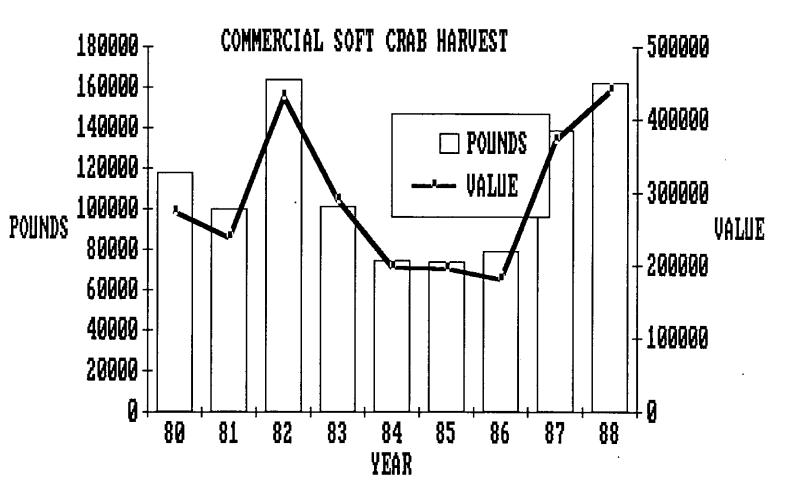


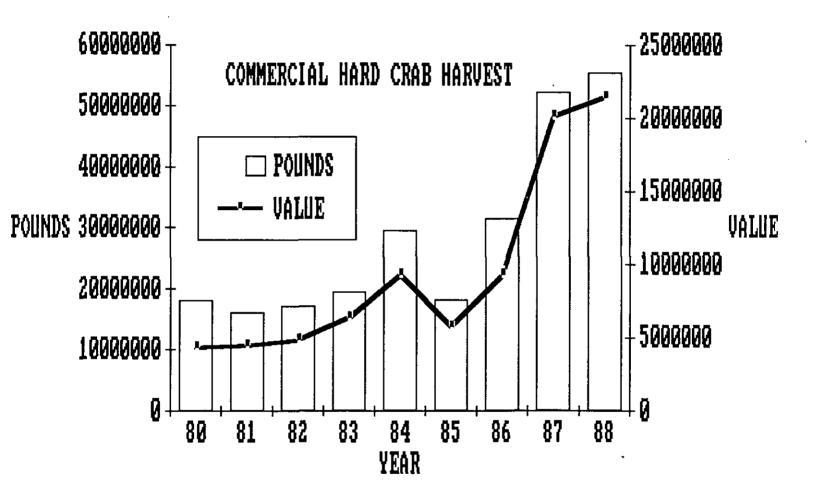


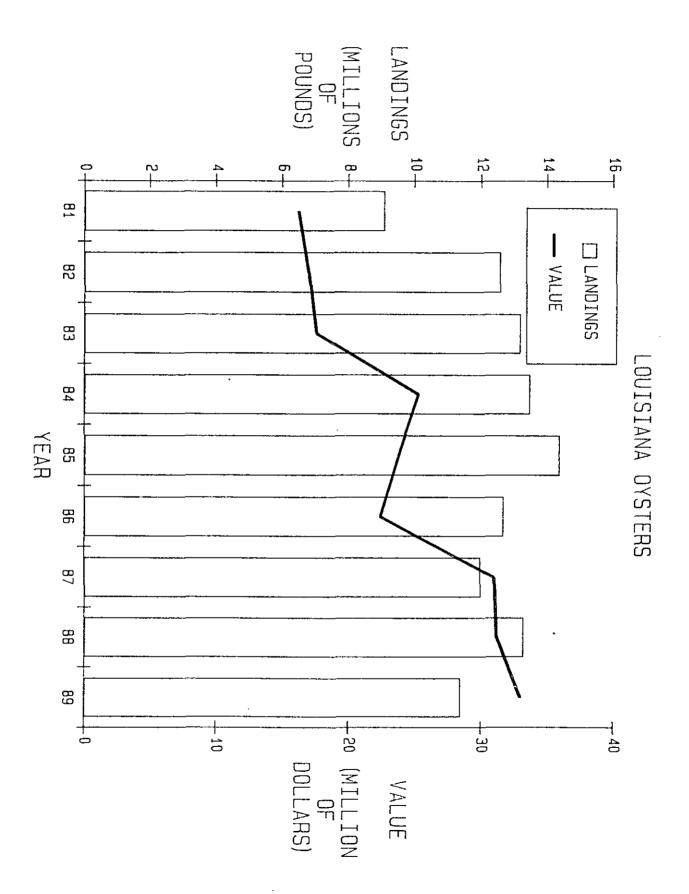


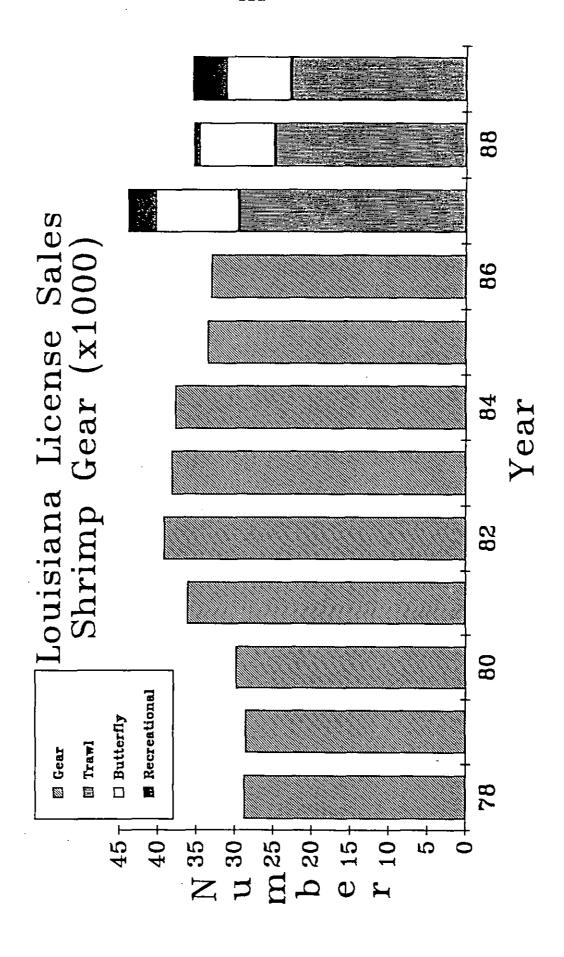


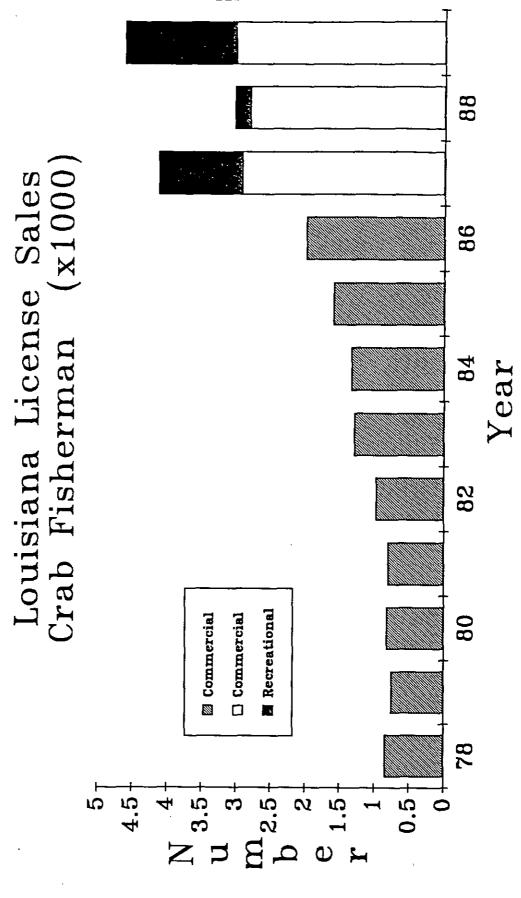


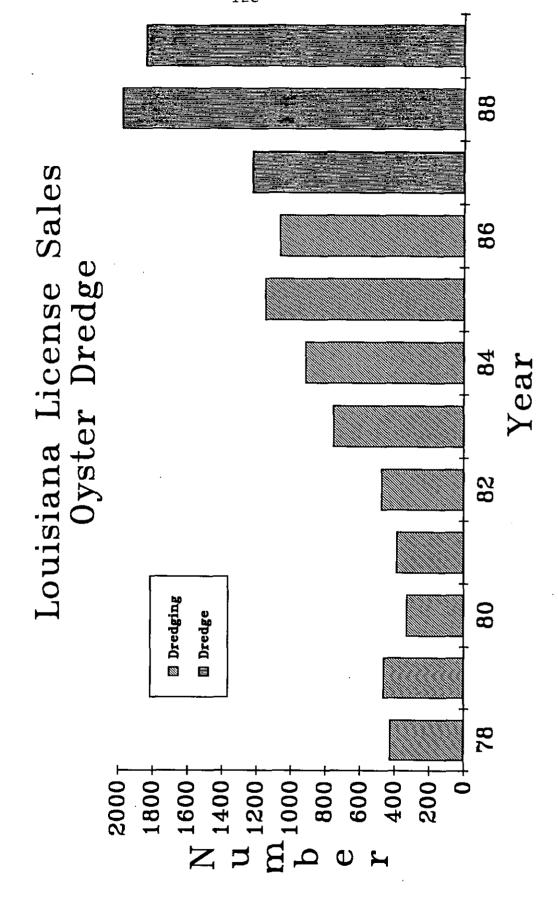


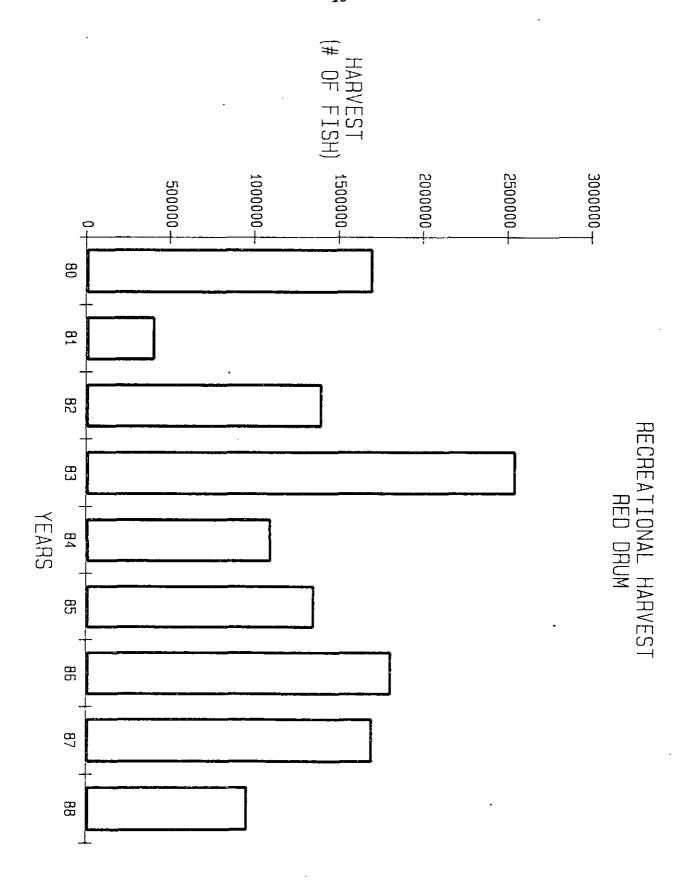


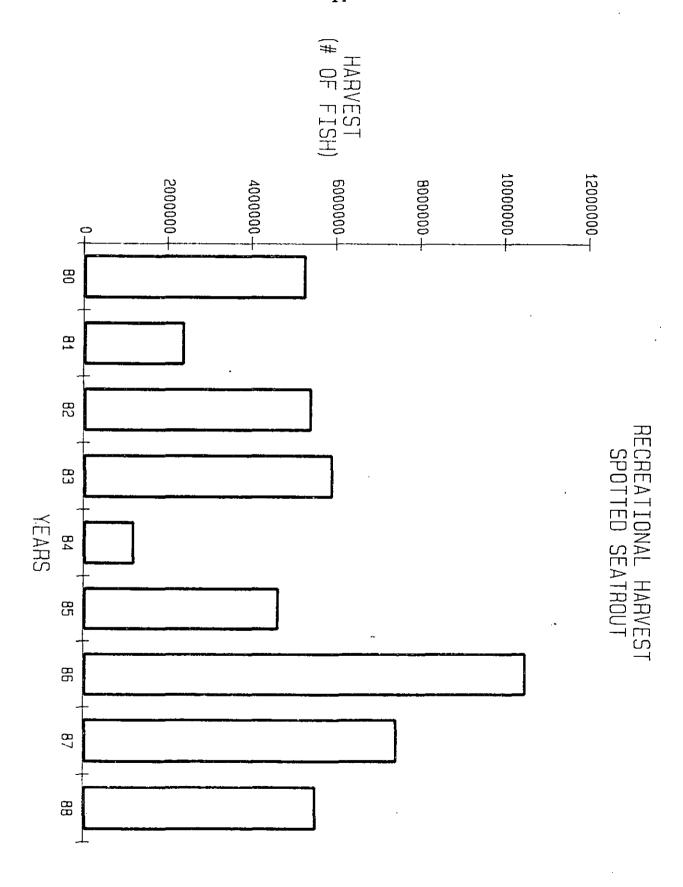


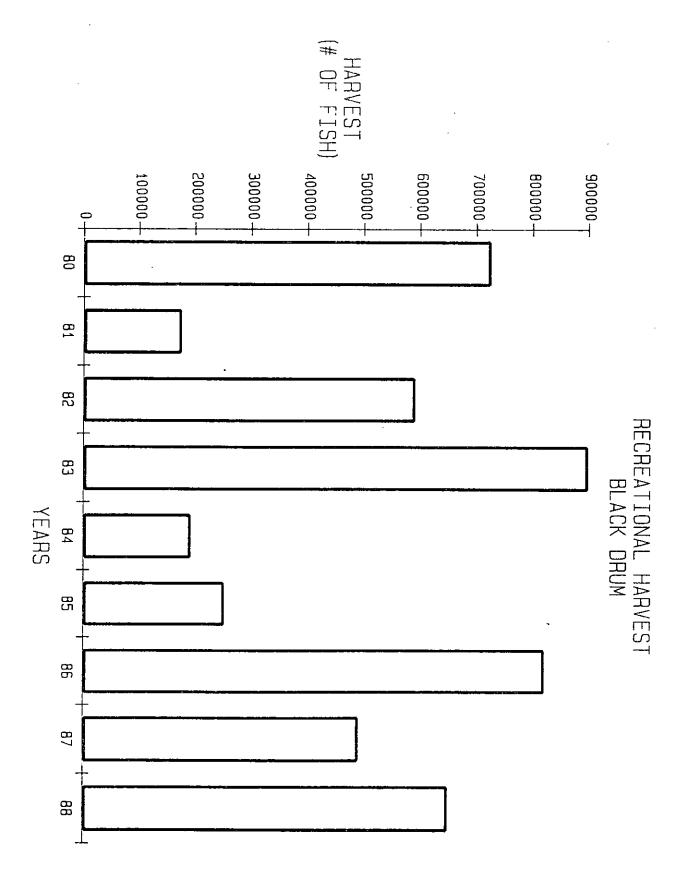


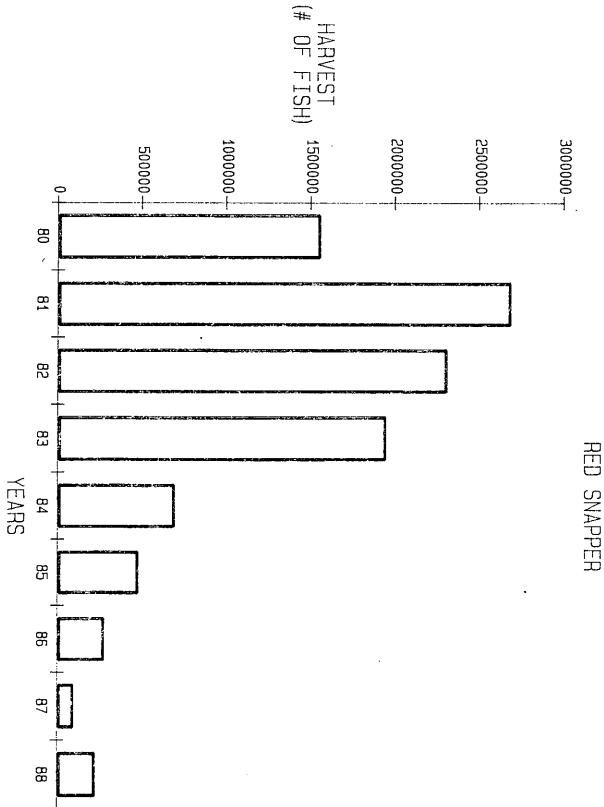




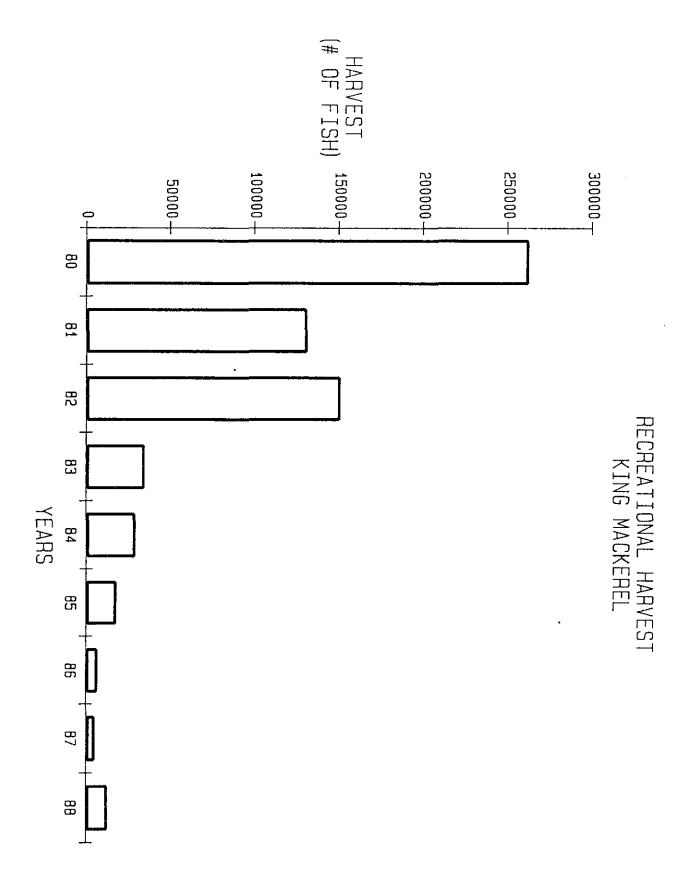


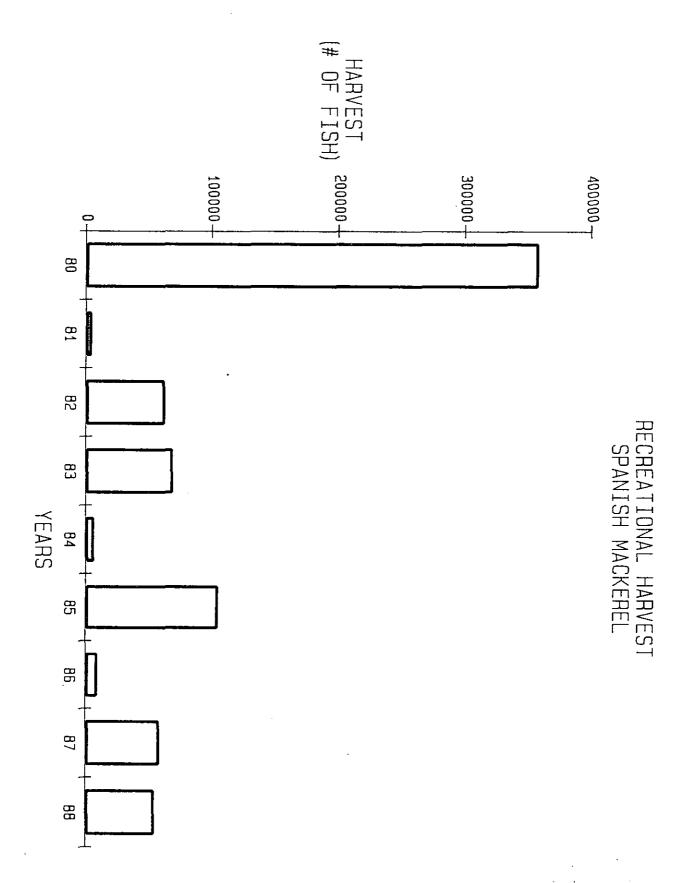






RECREATIONAL HARVEST





## DISPOSITION REPORTS

Responded:
ALLEN
ASCENSION
ASSUMPTION
AVOYELLES
BEAUREGARD
CALCASIEU
CAMERON
CATAHOULA/CONCORDIA
DESOTO/SABINE
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH
EAST CARROLL/TENSAS (Did not receive Madison)
IBERIA/ST. MARY /ST. MARTIN
FRANKLIN/RICHLAND (No report on West Carroll)
JEFFERSON PARISH
JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH
LAFOURCHE PARISH
LASALIE PARISH
LINCOLN
MOREHOUSE/OUACHITA
NATCHITOCHES
PLAQUEMINES (Letter of Explanation - No Disposition Report
ORLEANS

## RAPIDES

RED RIVER

ST. LANDRY

ST.  $\mbox{HELENA/TANGIPAHOA/LIVINGSTON}$ 

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

ST. TAMMANY/WASHINGTON

UNION

VERNON

WINN

#### NO RESPONSE

CADDO PARISH

CALDWELL

**EVANGELINE** 

**GRANT** 

ST. BERNARD

ST. CHARLES

ST. JAMES

TERREBONNE

MADISON

IBERVILLE/POINTE COUPEE/WEST BATON ROUGE

EAST FELICIANA/WEST FELICIANA

BIENVILLE/CLAIBORNE AND JACKSON

ACADIA/LAFAYETTE/VERMILION

BOSSIER/WEBSTER

WEST CARROLL

ENFORCEMENT CASE REPORT

MARCH 1990

#### ENFORCEMENT CASE REPORT-MARCH 1990

#### REGION I

#### TOTAL CASES-196

ENFORCEMENT-190

OTHER - 6

65-Boating

68-Angling W/O A License

52-Fish Without Resident Pole License

2-Take Game Fish Illegally

1-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License (Resident Or Non-Resident)

3-Transport W/O Required License (Resident Or Non-Resident)

2-Netting In Closed Area (Dept. Regs.)

1-Possession Of Untagged Oysters

1-Hunt Wild Quadrupeds And/Or Wild Birds Illegal Hours (Except Deer, Bear, Turkey)

1-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA

#### CONFISCATIONS:

1 shotgun, 1 flashlight, 38 game fish, 2 catfish, 31 sacks of oysters.

#### REGION 2

#### TOTAL CASES-133

ENFORCEMENT-133

OTHER -0

31-Boating

26-Angling W/O A License

48-Fish Without Resident Pole License

1-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

#### Page (2)

#### REGION 2 CONT'D.

3-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License

(Resident Or Non-Resident)

2-Transport W/O Required License

(Resident Or Non-Resident)

1-Netting In Closed Area (Dept. Regs.)

1-Buying Or Selling For Resale Untagged Oysters

1-Possession Of Untagged Oysters

1-Not Abiding By Rules & Regulations On WMA

5-Illegal Possession Of Drugs Or Marijuana

4-DWI

9-Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries

#### CONFISCATIONS:

2 resident fishing licenses, 6 seafood receipts, 1 sample-schedule 4 nar-cotic, drug paraphanelia, small quantity marijuana, 3 drivers license, 2 paddlefish, 1 Yamaha motorcycle.

#### REGION 3

#### TOTAL CASES-223

ENFORCEMENT-220

OTHER - 3

83-Boating

87-Angling W/O A License

21-Fish Without Resident Pole License

1-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

3-Take Game Fish Illegally

1-Take Undersize Black Bass

2-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License

#### Page (3)

#### REGION 3 CONT'D.

- 3-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License
- 1-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License (Resident Or Non-Resident)
- 1-Netting In Closed Area
- 1-Use Lead Nets In Other Than Overflow Regions
- 1-Take Or Possess Undersize Commercial Fish
- 3-Blocking Passage Of Fish
- 1-Hunt Wild Quadrupeds And/Or Wild Birds Illegal Hours
- 1-Hunt Or Discharge Firearm From Public Road Or Highway Right-Of-Way
- 3-Hunt W/O Resident Big Game License
- 7-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA
- 1-Resisting Arrest
- 2-Criminal Trespass

#### CONFISCATIONS:

NONE

REGION 4

TOTAL CASES-87

ENFORCEMENT-79

OTHER - 8

33-Boating

1-Allow Another To Use Recreational License

24-Angling W/O A License

16-Fish Without Resident Pole License

2-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

1-Take Game Fish Illegally

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Page (4)
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#### REGION 4 CONT'D.

- 3-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License
- 2-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License
- 3-Littering
- 2-Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries

#### CONFISCATIONS:

18 undersize catfish, 60 yards of 2 inch gill net, 26 sets hoop nets with lead.

#### REGION 5

TOTAL CASES-320

ENFORCEMENT-295

OTHER - 25

- 112-Boating
- 93-Angling W/O A License
- 4-Angling W/O Saltwater License
- 6-Take Game Fish Illegally
- 2-Take Undersize Black Bass
- 3-Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession
- 5-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License
- 4-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License
- 8-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without A Vessel License
- 21-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License

(Resident Or Non-Resident)

2-Transport W/O Required License

(Resident Or Non-Resident)

- 1-Use Illegal Mesh Nets
- 1-Leave Nets Unattended
- 1-Take Or Possess Undersize Commercial Fish

1

#### Page (5)

#### REGION 5 CONT'D.

4-Trawl At Night (Cameron Parish)

5-Take Undersize Oysters From Natural Reef

1-Failure To Fill Out Oyster Tags Correctly

4-Hunt Wild Quadrupeds And/Or Wild Birds Illegal Hours

2-Possess Firearm While Frogging

5-Hunt Rabbits Closed Season

6-Possess Rabbits Closed Season

9-Taking Or Possessing Alligators Closed Season

2-Possessing F.B.A. W/O License

6-Possess Untagged MGB

7-Taking Or Possession Of Other Non-Game Birds-No Season

2-DWI

3-Littering

1-Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries

#### CONFISCATIONS:

22 ducks, 13 geese, 1 robin, 4 owls, 1 woodpecker, 3 mink, 3 bobcat, 6 rabbits, 4 alligators, 1 deer, 1 bass.

#### REGION 6

#### TOTAL CASES-230

ENFORCEMENT-230

OTHER - 0

89-Boating

77-Angling W/O A License

23-Fish Without Resident Pole License

#### Page (6)

#### REGION 6 CONT'D.

- 1-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License
- 1-Take Game Fish Illegally
- 4-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License
- 2-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License
- 5-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License (Resident Or Non-Resident)
- 5-Transport W/O Required License
- 2-Possession Of Red Drum And Spotted Sea Trout (Illegally)
- 1-Leave Nets Unattended
- 1-Blocking Passage Of Fish
- 4-Taking Oysters From Unapproved Area
- 4-Harvest Oysters Without Oyster Harvester License
- 1-Possession Wild Birds Or Wild Quadrupeds W/O A Permit
- 3-Possess Firearm While Frogging
- 1-Take Squirrel Illegal Methods
- 1-Possession Squirrels Closed Season
- 1-Resisting Arrest
- 3-Littering
- 1-Unmarked Gill Net

#### CONFISCATIONS:

31 fish, 2 rabbits, 3 firearms, 13 lbs. shad, 1 boat, 1 hoop net, 1 gill net.

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Page (7)
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#### REGION 7

#### TOTAL CASES-222

ENFORCEMENT-213

OTHER - 9

30-Boating

110-Angling W/O A License

34-Fish Without Resident Pole License

1-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

1-Angling W/O Saltwater License

2-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License

(Resident Or Non-Resident)

3-Sell And/Or Purchase Game Fish

4-Hunting W/O Resident License

6-Hunting W/Unplugged Gun Or Silencer

3-Hunt Or Discharge Firearm From Public Road Or Road Right-Of-Way

1-Hunt Or Take Deer Or Bear C/S

1-Poss. Of Illegally Taken Deer Or Bear (O/S Or C/S)

4-Hunt Turkey W/O Res. Big Game License

1-Take Illegal Turkey (Dept. Reg.)

2-Hunt Turkey Closed Season

5-Hunt Turkey Over Baited Area

1-Take Over Limit Of Turkey

4-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA

4-Criminal Trespass

3-Littering

2-Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries

#### Page (8)

#### REGION 7 CONT'D.

#### CONFISCATIONS:

4 shotguns, 1 corn feeder, 1 turkey call, 3 shells, 1 doe deer, 1 tom turkey, 1 bream, 11 sac-a-lait, 5 striped bass.

#### REGION 8

#### TOTAL CASES-326

ENFORCEMENT-267

OTHER - 59

43-Boating

28-Angling W/O A License

2-Fish Without Resident Pole License

4-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

2-Angling W/O Saltwater License

3-Take Game Fish Illegally

2-Take Or Possess Undersized Red Drum

(Recreational)

1-Take Or Possess Undersized Black Drum

(Recreational)

8-Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession

19-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License

17-Illegal Shipping Of Commercial Fish Shipping Regs. Tags & Identification

20-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without A Vessel License

22-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License

(Resident Or Non-Resident)

2-Transport W/O Required License

6-Use Illegal Mesh Nets

#### Page (9)

#### REGION 8 CONT'D.

- 5-Leave Nets Unattended
- 2-Sell And/Or Purchase Game Fish
- 4-Blocking Passage Of Fish
- 2-Destroy Legal Crab Traps Or Removing Contents
- 1-Allow Another To Use Commercial License
- 1-Permit Unlicensed Person To Operate Commercial Vessel
- 1-Permit Unlicensed Person To Use Commercial Gear
- 9-Failure To Mark/Tag Nets
- 8-Possess Or Sell Undersized Crabs
- 12-Trawling In Closed Season
- 5-Failure To Have Written Permission
- 9-Unlawfully Take Oysters From State Water Bottoms
- 20-Taking Oysters From Unapproved Area

(Polluted)

- 3-Unlawfully Take Oysters Off A Private Lease
- 1-Take Undersize Oysters From Natural Reef
- 1-Use Undersized Dredge Without Permit
- 9-Failure To Display Proper Number On Vessel
- 1-Possession Of Untagged Oysters
- 27-Harvest Oysters Without Oyster Harvester License
- 11-Fail To Cull Oysters In Proper Location
- 1-Hunt Squirrel C/S

#### Page (10)

#### REGION 8 CONT'D.

- 1-Taking Alligators W/O License
- 1-Taking Or Possessing Alligators Closed Season
- 1-Illegal Possession Of Alligators, Eggs Or Their Skins
- 2-Possession Of Live Alligators
- 2-Dealing In Alligator Parts W/O Proper License
- 1-Taking Or Possession Of Other Non-Game Birds-No Season
- 2-Resisting Arrest
- 3-Littering
- 1-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA

#### CONFISCATIONS:

9 redfish, 13 black drum, 515 plus 831 lbs. catfish, 1 flounder, 117 speckled trout, 6 lbs. mullet, 10,754 lbs. shrimp, 57 boxes of crabs, 346 alligator heads, 5 alligator feet, 12 lbs. alligator meat, 9 live alligators, 15 frogs, 3 sacks of crawfish, 300lbs. of crawfish, 1 sea bass, 56 sheephead, 1 inch gill net-200 foot long, 1 inch gill net 250 foot long, 1 inch gill net-2100 foot long. 4-25 foot trawl=100 feet, 3-40 foot trawl=120 feet, 117 sacks of oysters, 9 oyster dredges, 47 gallon oysters, 9 bushels of oysters, 25 lbs. turtle meat, 82 lbs. red snapper, 7 boats, 3 motors, 4 lbs. tuna, 5 lbs. white trout, 472 lbs. crab meat, 610 blue crabs, 9 lbs. king crabs.

Note: Covert confiscated 3 pickup trucks and 3,500 lbs. of redfish.

#### REGION 9

#### TOTAL CASES-367

ENFORCEMENT-359

OTHER - 8

60-Boating

107-Angling W/O A License

7-Angling W/O Saltwater License

- 1-Possession Overlimit Of Red Drum
- 1-Possession Overlimit Of Red Drum In Excess Of 27 inches (Recreational)
- 1-Take Or Possess Undersized Red Drum (Recreational)
- 17-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License
- 41-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License
- 13-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without A Vessel License
- 1-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License (Resident Or Non-Resident)
  - 2-Leave Nets Unattended
- 23-Take Or Possess Undersize Commercial Fish
- 3-Allow Another To Use Commercial License
- 3-Failure To Mark/Tag Nets
- 1-Trawling In Closed Season
- 14-Failure To Have Written Permission
- 8-Unlawfully Take Oysters From State Water Bottoms
- 34-Taking Oysters From Unapproved Area

#### Page (12)

#### REGION 9 CONT'D.

- 5-Unlawfully Take Oysters Off A Private Lease
- 2-Use Undersized Dredge Without Permit
- 1-Take Oysters Illegal Hours
- 1-Failure To Display Proper Number On Vessel
- 4-Fail To Cull Oysters In Proper Location
- 1-Hunting W/Unplugged Gun Or Silencer
- 1-Hunt Squirrel C/S
- 1-Hunt Raccoons Or Opossums Illegally
- 1-Hunting Doves Closed Season
- 3-Resisting Arrest
- 2-Littering
- 4-Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries
- 1-Possession Of Firearm Of Convicted Felon

#### CONFISCATIONS:

36 1/2 crates of crabs, 44 1/2 sacks of oysters, 1 hoop net, 71 catfish, 1 shotgun, 3 gill nets, 1 raccoon, 21 redfish, 2 squirrels, 5 oyster dredges, 15 black drum, 1 shark, 1-100 quart ice chest, 1 dove, 2 licenses, 11 boats and motors, 100 gallons of oysters.

Page (13)

S.W.E.P.

TOTAL RUNNING HOURS-264

TOTAL BOATS CHECKED- 61

TOTAL CITATIONS - 33

11-Trawling In Closed Season

9-Unattended Nets

3-No Vessel License

3-No Commercial License

4-No Running Lights

3-Improper Lighting

Search And Rescue Hours-16

Net Disposal Hours -16

## CONFISCATIONS:

2,300 feet of gill net, 13 trawls, 1,512 lbs. shrimp.

#### Page (14)

#### OYSTER STRIKE FORCE

#### BEGINNING DATE-3/23/90

#### TOTAL CASES-54

#### 11-Boating

- 1-Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession
- 1-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License
- 1-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License
- 5-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without A Vessel License
- 2-Take/Possess Oysters Without Oyster Harvester License
- 1-Use Undersized Dredge Without Permit
- 2-Failure To Have Written Permission
- 3-Unlawfully Take Oysters From State Water Bottoms
- 4-Taking Oysters From Unapproved Area (Polluted)
- 14-Take Undersize Oysters From Natural Reef
- 2-Failure To Display Proper Number On Vessel
- 2-Failure To Fill Out Oyster Tags Correctly
- 1-Failure To Tag Sacked Or Containerized Oysters
- 4-Harvest Oysters Without Oyster Harvester License

#### CONFISCATIONS:

75 sacks of oysters, 71 sacks of oysters dumped, 2-40 H.P. outboards, 2-16 foot flats.

# Page (15)

TOTAL	CASES	ENFORC	EMENT		2104
TOTAL	CASES	OTHER I	<u>ivisio</u>	<u> </u>	118
TOTAL	CASES	S.W.E.I	P.	-	33
TOTAL	CASES	OYSTER	STRIKE	FORCE-	54
GRAND	TOTAL		<u>;</u> !	_	2309

# RULE WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

# TITLE 76 WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

#### PART VII. FISH AND OTHER AQUATIC LIFE

CHAPTER 3. SALTWATER SPORT AND COMMERCIAL FISHING

SECTION 333. SANCTUARIES; CALCASIEU LAKE, SABINE LAKE

The areas within a one quarter mile radius on the lake side only of the Lambert, Grand Bayou, Mangrove, and Peconi water control structures (otherwise identified as structures no.. 5, 1, 8 and 4 respectively), and the area within a one eighth mile radius on the lake side only of the water control structure on No Name Bayou, all within the Calcasieu Lake system; the area within a one quarter mile radius on the lake side only of the mouths of Three Bayous and Willow Bayou where they empty into Sabine Lake, are fish sanctuaries and closed zones, and that all netting of fish by any means or method, including but not limited to trawls, butterfly nets, gill nets, seines, or trammel nets, is hereby prohibited, with the exception of hand cast nets, crab traps and crab drop nets.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:315

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR : ( ).



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office 9450 Roger Boulevard St. Petoroburg, PL 03782

#### RAPICOM TRANSMISSION

ADDRESSEE'S NAME MRS. HARRY SEOUTH
MAIL ROUTING CODE
TELEPHONE NUMBER (FTS)
COMMERCIAL
ORIGINATOR'S NAME LT. ERIC HAWK
MAIL ROUTING CODE
TELEPHONE NUMBER (FTG)
COMMERCIAL
DATE 4/5/90
MULTIPLE TRANSMISSION PAGE(8) TO FOLLOW
SUBJECT/COMMENTS: BIACK DOUM INFO REQUEST.
IN THE FUTURE, CALL GULF STATES MARINE
FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR INFO ON GULF
STATES FINEISH REGS., TEZ: (601) 875. 5912



MINIMUM SIZE LIMITS ON BLACK DRUM IN STATE WATERS:

MISS: NO SIZE LIMITS

(Tel: (601) 385 5860)

ALA: NO SIZE LIMITS

((205)861-2882)

FL: 5 FISH LIMIT

14"MIN SIZE , 24"MAX SIZE, BUT YOU MAY TAKE I OVER 24".

( 904) \$488-6559

IN THE FUTURE,

AND FOR

ADD'L INFO: Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission CALL (601). 875-5912

OR THE

#'S LISTED

MOVE.

IN FED. WATERS, NO DAILY BAG SIZE OR POSSESSION FIMITIENET

TAKEN From
TEXAS 1989-1990 Commercial Fishing Guide
Point on the Lamar Peninsula, then direct to the Purse Seine: Purse seine with not less that

Point on the Lamar Peninsula, then direct to the eastern end of Goose Island, then along the southern shore of Goose Island, then along the causeway between Lamar Peninsula and Live Oak Peninsula, then along the eastern shoreline of the Live Oak Peninsula past the town of Fulton, past Nine-mile Point, past the town of Rockport to a point at the east end of Talley Island including that part of Copano Bay within 1,000 feet of the causeway between Lamar Peninsula and Live Oak Peninsula.

#### Note:

No person may retain or possess red drum, spotted seatrout, or any other game fish caught on a trotline.

Minnow Seine: It is unlawful for any person to use a minnow seine which exceeds 20 feet in length.

Cast Net: It is unlawful for any person to use a cast net exceeding 14 feet in diameter.

Perch trap: Perch traps may be used to takebait only, may not exceed 18 cubic feet and must be marked with a white floating visible buoy not less than 6 inches in height and 6 inches in width or with white plastic bottles not less than one gallon in size. The buoy must have a gear tag attached.

Snapper trap: These regulations apply to traps fished exclusively in the Gulf of Mexico for red snapper. Traps may not be fished within the area bounded by the following coordinates or within one mile of any shoreline:

Reference Location	Latitude (North)	Longitude (West)
Sabine Pass	29°39.0'	93°49.5'
Texas/Louisiana Line, South	28° 38.0'	93°3 <b>2</b> .0′
Off Galveston Island	28° 28.0'	95°00.0'
Off Galveston Island	29°09.5'	95°00.0'

Trap construction characteristics must be as follows: mesh must be one by two inches or larger; door must be hinged and fastened with degradable material (natural twine, magnesium diameter); access door must be 144 square inches or larger and located opposite funnel; must have at least two escape gaps two by two inches on each of two sides; and cannot be larger than 33 cubic feet outside dimensions.

Traps may be pulled only between sunrise and sunset. Traps must display permit number and color code as designated by the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Purse Seine: Purse seine with not less than one-and-one-half-inch stretched mesh, not including the bag, may be used only for taking menhaden from the third Monday in April through the Friday following the second Tuesday in October of each year. Purse seine for taking menhaden may not be used in any bay, river, pass or tributary, nor within one mile of any barrier, jetty, island or pass, nor within one-half mile offshore in the Gulf of Mexico. When using purse seine for taking menhaden, edible aquatic products may not exceed five percent by volume of the menhaden in possession.

#### BAG, POSSESSION AND LENGTH LIMITS

Species	Bag and Possession Limit	Minimum Length (Inches)	Maximum Length (Inches)		
Black drum*	No limit	14	30		
Cobia	No limit	37	No limit		
Flounder*	No limit	12	No limit		
Gafftopsail Catfish	No limit	11	No limit		
King mackerel**	2	14	No limit		
Pompano	No limit	9	No limit		
Red snapper***	No limit	13	No limit		
Shark: All species, their hybrids & subspecies	5 (In aggregate)	No limit	No limit		
Sheepshead*	No limit	12	No limit		
Spanish mackerel	3	14	No limit		
Only the holder of a commercial finfish fisherman's					

Only the holder of a commercial finfish fisherman's license is exempt from recreational bag and posses sion limits while commercial fishing.

1

Effective Sept 1, 1989 -11- Expires Aug 31, 1990

<sup>\*\*</sup>No person may possess more than two king mackerel except the possession limit for persons on a licensed charter vessel is two king mackerel per person per trip for all persons on board, or three king mackerel per angler per trip exclusive of captain and crew, whichever is greater.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Five undersize red snapper may be retained per fisherman. Persons on vessels legally operating shrimp trawls are excluded from the size limit. A person fishing with a trawl for species other than red snapper is exempt from the minimum size limits for red snapper. For the purposes of this clause, a person fishing with a trawl is considered to be fishing for species other than red snapper when the total weight of red snapper does not exceed 5% of all other fish (including shrimp) aboard.



Baton Rouge

70804-9004



POST OFFICE BOX 94004 (504) 342-7015

March 16, 1990

"The greatest achievement of the human spirit is to live up to one's opportunities and make the most of one's resources."

-- Vauvenargues

# MR. PRESIDENT, MR. SPEAKER, AND HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE:

Louisiana is a state of opportunities. Our state sits astride the nation's greatest water transport route and has ready access to world trade through our ports and airports. Louisiana is rich in raw materials and has abundant wildlife and natural resources. Moreover, our people are survivors; they know how to work, and they are willing to work hard.

In the past we have not taken full advantage of these opportunities; nor have we made the most prudent use of our financial resources. We relied too much on one resource--our oil and gas; we took the easy way out. However, we are beginning to realize the potential of our natural and human resources. We are beginning to bring fiscal sanity to state government.

During the past two years, you and I have worked together to consolidate state debt, reduce state expenditures, and balance the budget. Since 1987, there has been a reduction in base spending, even though funding for essential mandates and needed enhancements for teacher pay raises, improvements to the state's roadways, and reduction of the unfunded liability of the state's retirement systems have been added to the state's annual appropriation. Today, Louisiana's current state appropriation is \$1,191 per person-\$189 less than the southern state average.

In recent years, we have depended on a year-by-year renewal of suspensions of sales tax exemptions and the educational tax credit to balance the budget. This annual utilization of temporary taxes, accompanied by the uncertainty of continued funding for state services, has handicapped state administrators and service providers.

Nonetheless, through sound, strategic management of state government, we have been able to make strong commitments to education, economic development, the environment, and ethics in government. I believe that we must not only continue these essential initiatives, but we must attack two specific problems that hinder our economic recovery and threaten the lives and well-being of our people: illiteracy and drug abuse.

Education is the key to Louisiana's future, and this budget contains almost \$188 million in General Fund enhancements for education--including major literacy initiatives, increased funds

for textbooks, the third phase of our teacher pay plan, a pay plan for university and college faculty, and increased support for research at higher education institutions.

To continue our economic growth, this budget includes over \$5 million in General Fund enhancements for economic development and tourism development initiatives. In addition, there will be \$370 million in additional Transportation Trust Fund Projects that will result in the creation of an estimated 11,000 jobs and bring the long-term economic development benefits associated with an improved infrastructure.

This budget includes over \$15 million in General Fund enhancements to environmental efforts to improve air and water quality and to deal with hazardous and solid wastes, inactive and abandoned disposal sites, oilfield wastes, and abandoned wells and mines.

To improve ethics in government this budget increases General Fund support for the Ethics Administration by 75%. This will strengthen monitoring of campaign finance disclosure filings, accelerate responses to requests for ethics opinions, and enhance elections integrity functions.

To combat drug trafficking in Louisiana, executive-federal assistance to local law enforcement is doubled and, for the first time, the commitment of state supporting funds will be recommended for this effort. State Police funding for drug enforcement is also increased.

Altogether, over \$210 million in General Fund enhancements for education, economic development, environment, ethics, and drug enforcement are presented in this budget. It also includes over \$120 million in other mandated increases. To be balanced, this budget requires additional revenue and a partial utilization of last year's surplus. It is my intention to use \$160 million of this surplus to help fund my recommended budget. Furthermore, I will propose in the General Appropriations Bill the application of an additional \$50 million for one-time equipment and deferred maintenance expenditure programs in higher education. To protect our natural hunting and fishing grounds, I will also propose utilization of an additional \$20 million for acquisition of land for wildlife areas.

This budget bears witness to our continued commitment to making Louisiana a good place to live, a good place to work, and a good place to do business. Further, these enhancements are an investment in Louisiana--an investment that will pay dividends in the forms of educational achievement; a literate, drug-free population; good jobs for all; clean land, air, and water; and political honesty.

Together, we can make the best use of Louisiana's abundant resources; together, we can grasp the tremendous opportunities open to us; together, we can shape the future.

Silo

Buddy Roemer

Governor



# United States Department of the Interior APR 84 1990

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE 75 SPRING STREET, S.W. ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

March 30, 1990

Ms. Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Post Office Box 98000 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898-9000

Dear Virginia:

We are enclosing a schedule of proposed hunts and hunt regulations for the 1990-91 season for our refuges in Louisiana. They are shown as presented and modified during a meeting with Messrs. Larry Soileau, Dave Morrison, and Tommy Prickett of your staff at the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area on March 9, 1990. In the event your frameworks changed from what they were on March 9, your staff should coordinate needed changes directly with the refuge managers.

Over the next 2 years, refuges with annual overflow will be implementing a requirement that hunters use nontoxic shot in shotguns for select small game hunts where we have a concern about lead poisoning in waterfowl. These are essentially refuge hunt areas where waterfowl hunters use nontoxic shot, and squirrel hunters are using the same and similar size lead shot in these areas. We have been enforcing this regulation on our refuges in Arkansas with acceptance and compliance by hunters.

We would appreciate being notified when these hunt schedules have been cleared by your Commission. This will allow us to proceed in printing hunt brochures and other hunt-related literature.

Sincerely yours,

Ames W. Pulliam, Jr. Regional Director

**Enclosure** 

cc:

All Louisiana Refuge Managers Ray Aycock, Jackson, MS . 04-04-90 13:11 US FWS WILDLIFE FIGNT DUI 305 4010

#### DID LDC

#### NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE HUNTS PLANNED FOR STATE OF LOUISIANA 1990-91

#### ATCHAFALAYA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Hunts will be held consistent with seasons and special regulations established for Sherburne Wildlife Management Area. Also, consideration should be given to privately-owned lands within the Atchafalaya National Wildlife Refuge boundaries having the same seasons and regulations as the Sherburne Wildlife Management Area.

#### BOGUE CHITTO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Species: Type Hunt: Waterfowl General gun

Season:

State season, except no early teal

season-mornings only

Bag Limit: Permits:

State regulations None required

Significant Changes:

None

Species: Type Hunt: Woodcock, turkey, rabbit, squirrel

Season:

State season; rabbit dogs permitted after last State deer gun hunt

Bag Limit: Permits:

State regulations

None required

Significant Changes:

None

Species: Type Hunt: Raccoon and opossum

General

Season:

November 1-16 and beginning the day after

the last State deer gun hunt through the end of the State trapping season

Bag Limit:

State regulations None required

Permits:

Significant Changes:

None

Species: Type Hunt: Either-sex deer Archery

Season:

State season

Bag Limit: Permits:

State regulations None required

Significant Changes:

None

### Bogue Chitto NWR (Cont.)

Species: Type Hunt: Deer

General

Season:

Bucks only - November 17-22, December 28-January 3; either-sex -

November .23-24

Bag Limit:

State regulations

Permits:

None required

Significant Changes:

None

#### CATAHOULA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Species:

Squirrel, rabbit, and feral hog

Type Hunt:

General gun

Season:

First day of State season through October 31

State regulations (no dogs)

Bag Limit: Permits:

Required (daily)

Significant Changes:

None

Species:

Either-sex deer and feral hog

Type Hunt: Season:

Youth gun hunt November 3 and 10 State regulations

Bag Limit: Permits:

Required (daily) and bag report required

Significant Changes:

Eliminate requirement to check deer

Species:

Either-sex deer, rabbit, squirrel, and

feral hog

Type Hunt:

Archery regulations

Season:

State season (except during youth and

muzzleloader hunts)

Bag Limit:

State regulations

Permits:

Required (daily) and bag report required

Significant Changes:

None

Species:

Either-sex deer and feral hog

Type Hunt:

Muzzleloader

Season:

First 2 days of State muzzleloader season

Bag Limit:

State regulations

Permits:

Required (daily) and bag report required

Significant Changes:

Eliminate 100 permit quota

#### D'ARBONNE AND UPPER OUACHITA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES

Waterfowl (ducks, coots) Species:

General Type Hunt:

Mornings only during State season except closed during teal season Season:

State regulations Bag Limit:

None required Permits:

None Significant Changes:

Species: Squirrel, rabbit, quail, woodcock, raccoon, opossum, and feral hog

Type Hunt: General -- dogs allowed for squirrel and

rabbit hunting after the last refuge

deer gun season

State season (daylight hours) Season:

Bag Limit: State regulations

Permits: None required

Significant Changes: None

Raccoon, opossum, and feral hog Species:

Type Hunt: General

December only (hunters may also take Season:

during daylight hours of squirrel

season)

State regulations Bag Limit:

None required Permits:

Significant Changes: None

Either-sex deer and feral hog Species:

Archery Type Hunt: State season Season:

State regulations Bag Limit:

None required Permits:

None Significant Changes:

Either-sex deer and feral hog Species:

General Type Hunt:

Four days (2 days beginning with the Season: first day of the Union Parish eithersex season, and the following Friday

and Saturday)

State regulations Bag Limit:

None required Permits:

Decrease season from 9 to 4 days (over Significant Changes: 2 weekends)

# D'Arbonne and Upper Quachita NWRs (Cont.)

Species: Either-sex deer and feral hogs

Type hunt: Muzzleloader and archery

Season: Two consecutive days starting the first

Saturday in December

Bag Limit: State regulations

Permits: None required

Significant Changes: New type of hunt and season

#### DELTA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Species: Waterfowl, coots

Type Hunt: General

Season: Mornings only on Wednesdays, Thursdays,

Saturdays, and Sundays during the State

duck season

Bag Limit: State regulations

Permits: None required

Significant Changes: None

Species: Rabbit
Type Hunt: General

Season: State season remaining after close of

duck season State requiation

Bag Limit: State regulations Permits: None required

Significant Changes: None

Species: Deer

Type Hunt: Archery - either-sex

Season: Month of October

Bag Limit: State regulations; hunt to close after

reaching total kill of 30

Permits: None required

Significant Changes: None

#### LACASSINE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Species: Waterfowl Type Hunt: General gun

Season: Mornings only, Wednesday through Sunday

during State season for western zone

Bag Limit: State regulations

Permits: None required

Significant Changes: None

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## Lacassine NWR (Cont.)

Species: Either-sex deer

Type Hunt: Archery

Season:

Bag Limit:

Permits:

All dates of October
State regulations
None required

Significant Changes: None

#### LAKE OPHELIA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Species: Squirrel, rabbit, raccoon

Type Hunt: General gun Season: October 5-31

Bag Limit: State regulations (no dogs)

Permits: General permit

Significant Changes: First hunt on new refuge. Hunting area

is portion of refuge north of Grand Lake Road and east of Buck Road.

Species: Either-sex deer

Type Hunt: Archery

Season: October 1-31

Bag Limit: State regulations
Permits: General permit

Significant Changes: First hunt on new refuge. Hunting area

is portion of refuge north of Grand

Lake Road and east of Buck Road.

Species: Either-sex deer Type Hunt: Muzzleloader Season: December 1-2 State regulations

Permits: State regulation General permit

Significant Changes: First hunt on new refuge. Hunting area

is portion of refuge north of Grand Lake Road and east of Buck Road.

#### SABINE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Species: Type Hunt: Waterfowl General gun

Season:

Mornings only on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday during State season for western

zone

Bag Limit:

State regulations

None required Permits: None

Significant Changes:

#### TENSAS RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Species:

Type Hunt: Season:

Bag Limit:

Permits:

Significant Changes:

Turkey

General gun State season

State regulations

Season permit on brochure

Species:

Type Hunt:

Season:

Squirrel General gun

October 6 - November 22 (closed November 3 and 4)

Bag Limit:

Permits:

Significant Changes:

State regulations

Season permit on brochure

None

Species:

Type Hunt: Season:

Bag Limit: Permits:

Significant Changes:

Squirrel (with dogs)

General gun November 1-22

(closed November 3 and 4)

State regulations

Season permit on brochure

New hunt

Species: Type Hunt:

Season:

Rabbits General gun

October 6 - November 22 (closed November 3 and 4)

Bag Limit:

Permits:

State regulations Season permit on brochure

Significant Changes:

None

# Tensas River NWR (Cont.)

Species: Type Hunt: Season:

Bag Limit: Permits:

Significant Changes:

Rabbits (with beagles)

General gun

January 21 - February 3

State regulations

Season permit on brochure

This hunt was moved to follow the close

of archery season.

Species: Type Hunt: Season: Rag Limit:

Bag Limit: Permits:

Significant Changes:

Raccoons General gun January 15-28 State regulations

Season permit on brochure

None

Species: Type Hunt:

Season:

Bag Limit: Permits:

Significant Changes:

Either-sex deer

Archery

October 1 - January 19

(closed during all deer gun hunts)

State regulations

Season permit on brochure

None

Species:

Type Hunt: Season: Bag Limit:

Permits:

Either-sex deer

Youth

November 3 and 4 State regulations

Season permit on brochure and youth hunters possess certification of completion of Hunter Safety Course

Significant Changes:

None

Species: Type Hunt:

Season: Bag Limit:

Permits:

Significant Changes:

Either-sex deer General gun

November 23 and 24 State regulations Limited permit hunt

None

Species: Type Hunt: Season: Bag Limit: Permits:

Significant Changes:

Either-sex deer General gun December 15 and 16 State regulations Limited permit hunt

None

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Halling Branch ...

# Tensas River NWR (Cont.)

Either-sex deer Species: Muzzleloader Type Hunt:

Weekend of State season State regulations Season:

Bag Limit:

Season permit on brochure Permits:

Significant Changes: None

Waterfowl Species: Type Hunt:

General gun Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday until noon each day of State season Season:

State regulations Bag Limit:

Season permit on brochure Permits:

Significant Changes: None

#### LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES April 6, 1990

#### RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for resident game birds and quadrupeds, and
- WHEREAS, authority to establish seasons, bag limits, possession limits and other rules and regulations for the hunting, taking and possession of any species of wild game birds or quadrupeds is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:115, and
- WHEREAS, this action will provide for the protection and conservation of these natural resources and allow for recreational opportunities for sport hunting on both public and private lands, and
- WHEREAS, the Commission and Department staff have jointly reviewed and considered all available biological information and requests from sportsmen of the state, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rules, regulations, season dates, and bag limits affecting sport hunting of resident game species are hereby adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

Warren Pol. Chairman

La. Wildlife and Fisheries

Commission

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

La. Dept. of Wildlife and

Fisheries

#### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: Sportfishing provides recreation for more than sixty million Americans of all ages, giving families a healthy,

shared outdoor activity, and

Sportfishing, through the payment of millions of dollars annually for licenses, taxes and fees, has provided the funding for federal and state programs that contribute WHEREAS: significantly to the preservation and protection of our

natural environment, and

WHEREAS: The estimated 800,000 plus sportfishermen in Louisiana contribute in excess of one billion dollars annually to

our economy, and

Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature authorizes the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare no more than two free recreational fishing days each WHEREAS:

year, and

WHEREAS: Free Fishing Days during National Fishing Week would provide an excellent opportunity to introduce additional individuals to the wholesome outdoor activity of fishing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That we the undersigned members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby officially declare the week of June 4-10, 1990 as

#### FISHING WEEK

in the State of Louisiana, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That June 9 and 10, 1990 are hereby declared free recreational fishing days, during which residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

April 6, 1990

Warren 1. Pol,

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Peter G. Vujnovich, Şr.

Don Hines

Bert Jones

Don Hins

Joe Palmisano, Jr.

Vagrua Ula Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

Warren Pol

Chairman

Secretary

#### MINUTES OF MEETING

#### LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

APRIL 5-6, 1990

Chairman Warren Pol presiding:

Thursday, April 5, 1990

Don Hines
Jimmy Jenkins
Bert Jones
Norman McCall
Pete Vujnovich

Secretary Van Sickle was also present.

Friday, April 6, 1990

Don Hines
Jimmy Jenkins
Bert Jones
Norman McCall
Pete Vujnovich

At Thursday's meeting a motion was made by Dr. Hines for the Commission to go into Executive Session, for approximately one hour, on Cooper et. al. vs. LA Dept. Wildlife and Fisheries. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously. Captain Pete Vujnovich asked that he be excused from attending the executive session as it might be a conflict of interest and will not know until his meeting with the Ethics Committee tomorrow at which time a ruling will be issued. Captain Vujnovich was excused. The executive session will last about an hour and the Commission meeting will reconvene around 2 p.m. advised Chairman Pol.

Chairman Pol reconvened the April 5th Commission meeting a little after 2 p.m.

At Thursday's meeting a motion was made my Mr. Jenkins to accept the Minutes of the March 1-2, 1990, Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Captain Vujnovich and passed unanimously.

At Thursday's meeting, Mr. Norman McCall discussed Clarification of Boundaries of Calcasieu Sanctuaries and Ratification of Rule.

Mr. McCall stated that he had asked that this item be put on the agenda because it has come to his attention that there is some confusion as to what the Commission proposed and what the boundary lines are. The intent of the proposed rule is that the boundaries of the sanctuaries would be one-quarter of a mile from the mouth of the bayous out into the lake and one-quarter of a mile down each bank which would result in a half circle or a semi-circle. Mr. McCall advised that he would like to make sure that the word gets out to the law enforcement personnel, fishermen and everyone concerned as to what the actual boundaries lines are because of the confusion.

Chairman Pol called for questions pertaining to this item and asked Mr. McCall to repeat the boundaries which he did. Mr. Jenkins asked if this was the wording when the Commission first did this. Mr. McCall stated yes. Secretary Van Sickle commented that in the fule it say radius and this implies a circle which caused the law enforcement problems and they asked if this was on the inside or the outside. Looking at the minutes of the meeting and what Mr. McCall proposed was, basically all the discussion centered on the

basically

Said

outside in the lake, restriction of trawling, butterfly netting, and gill netting, with crab nets being allowed advised Secretary Van Sickle.

Secretary Van Sickle stated that she had some comments on behalf of the department regarding this item and asked if she could This issue is a big issue and about three weeks ago the proceed. issue came to a head when about 350 fishermen met in Lake Charles to express their concern about the Cameron - Creole Watershed the impoundment of the marsh, the trapping of shrimp within the marsh and the use of the shrimp by landowners, and the blockage of the ingress and egress of marine organisms into the Ultimately a statement was made that at the meeting that the project needed to proceed and the marsh should be taken care of, but in the interim the department ought to do as much as possible to be able to manage for the ingress and egress of fish and shrimp. In order to accomplish this the department feels that the four little narrow gauntlets that basically the fish and shrimp use to migrate out of the marsh should be taken out of commercial netting so that no individual, no landowner, and no group of three or four butterfly netters that may have access to the property can get in there and block the migration of these shrimp out into the public domain, which is Calcasieu Lake. For this reason, Secretary Van Sickle stated that she would propose that one of two things be Number one, the quarter mile radius could apply as it says in the proposed Notice of Intent as a true radius and extend behind

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the water control structures. This has been discussed with John Wather who is the manager of the Cameron - Creole Watershed and he has no problems with this. The second alternative would be to restrict the entire Cameron - Creole Watershed, which is over a hundred thousand acres of marsh, to commercial shrimping. watershed and the weirs that are blocking the ingress and egress of shrimp into the marsh were not constructed to impound shrimp for landowners. This is not the purpose of the Cameron - Creole Watershed and the landowners themselves are saying this is not what they want to do, this was done to protect their marsh. process of protecting their marsh, if the control structures are operated in one way all the shrimp can be allowed to get in the marsh and basically you turn Cameron - Creole into a mariculture operation from which the shrimp cannot get out stated Secretary Van Sickle and strongly asked the Commission to consider at least one of the two alternatives. The two alternatives are 1) to extend the radius and make it a true radius of a quarter of mile around the structures because if you just block butterfly nets on the lake side the same reason you want to keep them from doing this on the lake side exist on the inland side of the control structures; 2) entirely eliminate commercial trawling and gill netting from the Cameron - Creole Watershed. Secretary Van Sickle advised that maps and notices of intent for both of these alternatives are available for consideration by the Commission.

Mr. McCall had some questions about the definition of a radius and stated that a radius is part of an arch or part of a circle, most of the time in a 180 degrees or less, and nowhere did he find where a radius is considered a circle. Mr. McCall pointed out that number four on the agenda was being discussed and Secretary Van Sickle combined number five with four as an alternative. Secretary Van Sickle stated that if the Commission votes for number five than number four is a mute point and will not even be needed and pointed out that the notice of intent that was passed by the Commission says "the areas within a one-quarter mile radius of Lambert, Grand Bayou, Mangrove and Peconia water control structures" and does not Mr. McCall stated that when this was say on the lakeside. discussed it was plainly said the lake and there was no discussion on anything but the lake. Chairman Pol suggested that since there were a lot of people at the meeting that wanted to discuss Item #5 (Cameron - Creole Watershed) and as Secretary Van Sickle stated if you vote for one the other becomes a mute point, to hold off on the ratification of the Calcasieu Sanctuaries and move on to Item #5 and get the feelings of the landowners.

At Thursday's meeting Item #5, Notice of Intent, Restriction of Trawling and Netting in Cameron - Creole Watershed was opened for discussion by Chairman Pol. Secretary Van Sickle advised that for the purpose of this discussion trawls, butterfly nets, gill nets, seines or trammel nets (all netting like this) with the exception

of sxab hand cast nets and crab drop nets will be prohibited in the Cameron - Creole Watershed.

Mr. Pat Screen addressed the Commission on behalf of Mr. Henry McCall of Calcasieu Parish who is the brother of Mr. Norman McCall, Mr. Screen passed out materials to the Commission member. Commissioners for their consideration which dates back to the origins of the project which was prepared by the Graverdy Drainage District, Soil Conservation Service and an agency of the state government, the Department of Public Works. This is descriptive literature that preceded the project what the project will not do) and was filed in the Cameron Parish Courthouse. project will not do. "Prevent the use of the area for fishing, shrimping and crabbing". Mr. Screen pointed out that there was also a copy of an agreement between Mr. McCall and the State of Louisiana through the Graverdy Drainage District wherein he gives them the right to come in and construct this weir but reserves to himself the right to use the property to the fullest extent to which the state agreed which is also filed in the Cameron Parish Mr. Screen commented that it was his understanding Courthouse. that Mr. McCall's position in Lake Charles is not in any manner what so ever to restrict the migration or the movement of the shrimp into the marsh or out of the marsh and it is Mr. Screen's appreciation that when this control device is opened that nature takes it course. Mr. McCall is the landowner and he has granted the state of Louisiana, at its request at no cost, permission for

the state to come in and build this project on his property for the stated purposes of the project, to protect the marsh. All that Mr. McCall is requesting is that in essence the state keeps it word and that it not restrict his usage of the property by allowing him to shrimp on his property. He does not want to do damage to anyone else and does not want to restrict the movement of shrimp into the out of the marsh but does want to protect his constitutional right and live by the deal he made with the state to simply use his property to the fullest extent possible which is the basic rights of any landowner and to the extent that it does not defeat the purpose of the project as the literature said which was the marsh advised Mr. Screen. The issue is can a landowner use his property and particularly when the landowner struck a deal with the state of Louisiana and the state said yes you can. Mr. McCall is asking the state government to do through its various agencies (to live with the agreement, commented Mr. Secretary Van Sickle asked how the quarter mile radius would impact Mr. McCall. Mr. Screen advised that it was his understanding that Mr. McCall agreed to a radius but the radius that was agreed to was 200 feet. Secretary Van Sickle asked if at any time did the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission say that they would not regulate shrimp or fishing in the Calcasieu. Screen's knowledge they did not, but the Commission being an agent of the state of Louisiana he thinks it was in good faith when literature was produced to voters, citizens and landowners

encouraging them to cooperate with the state through its various

agencies and they in fact did cooperate and now almost twenty years later to say there is a new set of rules gets to be an issue of Secretary Van Sickle asked Ms. Karen Foote to get a couple of large maps of the area for discussion purposes. Chairman Pol asked about the agreement and the date it was made. Mr. Screen advised that it was filed in the Cameron Parish Courthouse and the project dates back well over a decade but the larger picture is that it was initiated, not by the landowners, but by various levels of government, federal government, state government and its agencies and this particular landowner cooperated totally and all he is asking for is that the use of his land not be restricted. Secretary Van Sickle asked Mr. Screen if he understood what the issue was and explained that someone can go in there and block, with butterfly nets, the ingress of a hundred thousand acres worth of shrimp out of that marsh and this was not dealt with by the Cameron Graverdy Drainage District twenty years ago when the project was envisioned. Mr. Screen asked if this has been the issue, if this man had done this. Secretary Van Sickle answered no but last year there were some of these incidents which occurred and there are a lot of upset shrimpers out there. Mr. Screen stated that he can understand this but it gets to the issue of is the cure worse than the problem and when you take a person's property and deny them the usage of their property, particularly when it contradicts a previous agreement, it gets to the heart of the constitution.

Dr. Hines asked Mr. McCall if there would be any problem with the other four areas if a circle is made around them. Mr. McCall stated that of the other four structures two are on government property and two are on private property and there are some private property landowners at the meeting who would like to talk about that.

Mr. Harry Brown, Commercial Fisherman, Cameron, LA, addressed the Commission. Mr. Brown stated that on this issue he thought that there was already a law on the statutes which says that 500 feet was the distance before you could set a net and if there was already a law he did not see any purpose for what is being done Dr. Hines asked if this law affected butterfly net and now. Secretary Van Sickle stated that it was fixed nets. Colonel Vidrine advised that it affected butterfly nets also. Mr. Brown stated that if this was already on the statutes he did not see where the quarter of a mile would be needed. Secretary Van Sickle commented that it was a whole lot bigger area. Mr. Brown asked why was there a problem when at 500 hundred feet away from the weir or the mouth of the bayou the butterfly will not catch that much and nets are not set within 500 feet now. Mr. McCall stated that it not only pertains to butterfly it pertains to any kind of trawling or netting. Mr. Brown commented this is what he is saying and there will be a quarter of a mile area out in the lake that the shrimpers cannot drag their trawls. Secretary Van Sickle answered that this is the way it is right now. Dr. Hines asked Secretary Van Sickle if the department had any objection if it was a quarter of a mile out into the lake and 500 feet inland. Secretary Van Sickle stated that it does not create any problems for the department but might create a problem for the shrimpers. Dr. Hines suggested that wording "on the lakeside only of a quarter of a mile" be put into rule and the law would take care of 500 feet on the inland side. Mr. Brown stated that he did not see why it has to be extended from 500 feet.

Mr. Roger Vincent, Jr., Land Manager for Miami Corporation in the state of Louisiana, addressed the Commission. Mr. Vincent stated that they have very serious problems with the proposed condonation of approximately a minimum of 30,000 acres to possibly 100,000 acres of Miami Corporation's land in Cameron Parish. The variance is caused mainly by the fact they do not know where the line stops, if it stops at Highway 27 you are looking at 30,000 acres and if it includes the big burns you are looking at approximately 100,000 acres stated Mr. Vincent. Miami Corporation is a very large landowner and 99% of their money is derived from the oil and gas industry which landa are the discovery of leasea products. If surface income that is derived from this would be over a million dollars it would be a surprise to Mr. Vincent. would cost Miami more money to regulate shrimping than any income that would be earned or has been earned in shrimping and it is not worth it advised Mr. Vincent. This has been done and proven in the past when Miami did allow commercial shrimping, idid not do very

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well and are not interested in it in the future. Mr. Vincent stated that he was going to assume that Miami's right-of-way is similar, if not more demanding, than McCall's. Conservation and Graverty Drainage was a drainage program and not a mariculture and the shrimp are happening by accident stated Mr. Vincent. Some thirty, forty years ago this was brought up as a problem due to the widening and dredging of the ship channel into Lake Charles to some 30 feet by 400 feet wide and the marsh is getting a large charge of saltwater which has turned the freshwater marsh, where 100,000 muskrat were caught a year, into a marsh where you cannot find an animal. The marsh is not there stated Mr. Vincent. In 1959 Miami put up a levee, in this same area, at its own expense to protect its land. Sabine Refuge, to the south, owns another 15,000 - 20,000 acres and Mr. Vincent pointed out that John Wathers has not allowed shrimping on the refuge in years and trawling is not allowed on Sabine Refuge. Mr. Vincent stated that he was at the meeting in Lake Charles on March 6 which was called by Randy Roach to discuss this issue and there were some 350 people in attendance. Not all the people attending were shrimpers and Mr. Vincent put the percentage at 50-50 or 40-60 as been shrimpers. It was pointed out that the shrimp did not have access last year but it would not have made any difference as there was 20 inches of water on the marsh. Calcasieu Lake remained fresh most of the year so could have shrimp been grown to begin with stated Mr. Vincent. A management plan \ was devised after numerous years of negotiations with the shrimpers being well represented along with

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Louisiana Department of Wildlife, NMFS, and Corps of Engineers all concerned about the access that the estuary users would receive, the structures were designed to allow this and the management plan allows it. However, there is a window in time, the first two years where the water was to be taken off and attempts made to revegetate large bodies of open water, the land loss in that area was a minimum of 40,000 acres. If it all turns to water and there is no vegetation to support the shrimp or menhaden industry the shrimp will not want it. Mr. Vincent stated that he understands the shrimpers concern but at the same time the marsh has got to be raised so that shrimp can be raised.

Chairman Pol asked Mr. Vincent if Miami harvest shrimp for resale or sale? Mr. Vincent stated that he is embarrassed to say that he has instructed his people not to and there was a limited incident with a commercial harvest, a very small one. Mr. Vincent informed the Commission that he does receive shrimp out of the system for his freezer and personal use. Miami Corporation is concerned as Mr. Pat Screen said with the constitutional issue and feels that they have done nothing and are not going to do anything but remain in the oil and gas industry. They are concerned about the boundaries going into the 10,000 to 100,000 acres that are owned by Miami and where the line is going to stop. Mr. Vincent stated that he did not believe the whole 100,000 acres that Secretary Van Sickle discussed is all shrimp producing acreage. Will restrictions be put on the crabs, asked Mr. Vincent and

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advised that Miami does have four crabbers who have been there for at least 3-4 years and were there before the structures were in. Will restrictions be put on the fur because the fur benefits or will alligators be banded from harvesting and last but not least what will happen to the duck hunter asked Mr. Vincent. One issue that Mr. Vincent stated that he has not heard discussed in this forum is the fact that there are some state or federal monies invested and does the state and federal government have the authority to regulate the landowners because the money has tainted their property. There was a recent Supreme Court case where there was a drainage permit or a drainage servitude granted and that drainage servitude was for drainage only, it did give the right to shrimping, fishing and continued access to private land and Miami sees this as a problem. Miami Corporation wants to do their share to bring the marsh back and stop the illegal shrimping on the Secretary Van Sickle stated that this is the way to do this. Mr. Vincent commented that the he does not like to be told how to do something and the department is condemning his land and Miami is definitely opposed to this. Mr. Vincent agrees/with Secretary Van Sickle that this is the way to go. Last year Miami paid over a \$160,000 to Cameron Parish in taxes and believe that they have the right to at least try and do something about the problem and if it cannot be done Mr. Vincent will be the first one back to tell Secretary Van Sickle that they cannot do it. Miami is currently entering into a joint venture with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service out of Atlanta to manage the Cameron - Creole

tract and Miami has hired their assistant manager concluded Mr. Vincent.

Mr. Ricky McThern, member of the Louisiana Shrimp Task Force, addressed the Commission on behalf of the task force. Mr. McThern stated that they have had fishermen coming in with complaints about the watershed project and after a lengthy discussion the board voted unanimously to restrict all commercial net fishing in the watershed project. There were many things mentioned at that meeting that has not been mentioned today advised Mr. McThern. Five recommendations were presented to the Commission that were unanimously voted on by the Shrimp Task Force. These recommendations are:

- 1. Request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries conduct a multi-use review of the Cameron Creole Watershed Project and all future coastal restoration and marsh management projects and make recommendations to lessen the short-term adverse impacts on estuarine fisheries resources without jeopardizing the overall long-term project objectives.
- Request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to increase its monitoring of estuarine fisheries in conjunction with the Cameron - Creole Watershed Project and make recommendations for multi-use operation of the project's structures to lessen

the short-term adverse impacts on estuarine fisheries without jeopardizing the overall long-term project objectives.

- Request the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service develop a more efficient method of operating and water control structures on the Cameron Creole Watershed Project, such that the gates can be opened and closed on a shorter time frame.
  - 4. Recommends all coastal restoration and marsh management projects have a current economic impact study done before they are authorized or permitted.
  - 5. Recommends to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other appropriate state and federal agencies that representatives from all affected parties, including commercial fishermen, be included on any and all advisory boards which review or develop recommendations for the operations of coastal restoration and marsh management plans.

As a commercial fisherman Mr. McThern stated that he sits on the Jefferson Parish Marine Advisory Board and right now they are looking at a permit that went to the Corps of Engineers that has to do with a levee, restoration, etc. As a fisherman he see this issue coming all the way across the coast. They had fishermen

attending their meeting and stated that you could fish inside the gates of a landowner but you had to give them 30 percent of your catch. Mr. McThern stated that one day in his area they may be paying a percentage of their catch to fish in the area and this is why the issue is so important to the commercial fishermen.

Mr. Charlie Bediford addressed the Commission and talked about why the levee was put up which was because about four years ago the saltwater was killing the marshes. The land is dying and if it is not saved it will be to late, but if it is done right the marsh can be saved. Cooperation is needed and not any more agents. If the salt intrusion is not stopped from going into the marsh it will be gone and if you don't have the marsh you do not have anything left stated Mr. Bediford. Mr. Bediford believes the marsh is the number one priority and not the shrimp.

Mr. T-John Mialjevich, President of the Concern Shrimpers of America addressed the Commission. Mr. Mialjevich stated that the only argument he has is people harvesting resources off of their property that they don't plant and using this watershed and other projects that are built to save the marsh as impoundments to capture products that belongs to everybody in the state that wants to get a commercial or recreational fishing license and then harvesting that product when it trys to leave the impoundment for their own personal gain which Mr. Mialjevich does not believe is legal. Sooner or later through the disquise of conservation and

saving the marsh there will be a levee running down the coast of Louisiana all the way up to Highway 90 and it will all be impounded and there will be nothing but shrimp farms, crab farms, red fish farms and there will be no more commercial fishing industry. Mr. Mialjevich stated that he thinks the fishermen would be happy if the landowners were not harvesting those product at the restricted areas.

Mr. McCall stated that Senator Doland and Representative Roach have met with his brother and possibly some of the other landowners and there has been an agreement worked out among them that is satisfactory as least to those people involved in the discussion. Mr. McCall's brother has agreed not to fish within 200 feet of the structure out of the 1,500 foot involved. There may be some legislation possibly at the next session stated Mr. McCall.

Secretary Van Sickle addressed the 500 foot law and asked Mr. Brown to listen carefully. The 500 foot law applies 500 feet of the mouth of any inlet or pass, within 500 feet of any water control structure, dam or weir and prohibits butterfly nets, trawls, fixed nets, wing nets, seines, gill nets, trammel nets and any other nets that would interfere with the free passage as long as they are five feet apart. This is the problem, they can butterfly up to the structure as long as they are five feet and this will not take care of the problem stated Secretary Van Sickle.

After a short discussion between the Commissioners it was decided that a vote on the clarification of the definition of the sanctuary would be taken up today and Item #5 be studied more and taken up at the next Commission meeting. Mr. McCall made a motion that the boundaries of the Calcasieu Sanctuaries be from the mouth of the Bayou of the five structures that have been talked about, onequarter of a mile out into the lake, one-quarter of a mile to the right and left which if you drew a line between the three points would make a half circle. This is on the four to the north of No Name Bayou. On No Name Bayou the same rule would apply except it would an eighth of a mile. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Dr. Hines asked why would No Name Bayou be treated different on the lakeside. Mr. McCall explained that No Name Bayou is right close to East Fork. It is almost a mile to the entrance of the old Calcasieu River and there is a set of jetties in front of it and the fishermen felt like a quarter of a mile would be harmful and Secretary Van Sickle advised that there is a detrimental. technical point that the department attorney wanted to bring up. Mr. Don Puckett advised that he had a copy of the draft rule prepared for ratification which basically ratifies what the Commission did at the Notice of Intent meeting but it contains language (on the lakeside only) that would basically take care of what Mr. McCall is concerned about. Chairman Pol called for vote on motion that was floor. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Pol suggested that further study be done on Item #5 and asked Secretary Van Sickle that it be postponed until the next meeting.

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Secretary Van Sickle stated this may be something that the Commissioners wants to put a lot of thought into because the new Coastal Restoration Plan that will be presented to the Legislature next week has eleven such projects in it and this issue is not going to go away with Cameron - Creole. A policy is needed that would address everybody's interest and that would apply not to just these landowners but to everybody who impounds their marsh and impact commercial fishing and shrimping stated Secretary Van Sickle. Dr. Hines stated that the Commission might have hit on something when the wrong information about the 500 feet was given and asked if anybody had any major objection to prohibiting fishing 500 feet from the structures on the inland side?

Mr. Preston Hebert, Cameron, fishermen on McCall's property in No Name Bayou, addressed the Commission. Mr. Hebert advised that it is only 1,512 feet from the gate at the weirs to the property line and if you give up 500 feet there will be no room to drag a net in there. An agreement was made for 200 feet with Randy Roach and Jack Doland which would give the fishermen a little room to drag to the property line.

Mr. Bill Delaney, past Assistant Manager, Sabine Refuge and currently working for Miami Corporation addressed the Commission. Mr. Delaney stated that on the 200 foot that Mr. McCall agreed to Miami will hold to that 200 foot. At the present time Miami does not have shrimping but does have crabbing interest and something

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that should come to the fore front is that a lot of these areas that are going into management projects have been historically fished advised Mr. Delaney. Mr. Delaney asked that when the the Commission and Secretary Van Sickle are looking into this issue and studying it in the next few week that he be given a call because he has been the one that has been on the structures for the last three year and can tell them what is going on.

At Friday's meeting Mr. Phil Bowman read the revised proposed rule on the Calcasieu Sanctuaries which containers all the language that the Legal Counsel suggested.

Mr. Jenkins asked how far up in these little bayous are these water control structures and the reason he is asking is because the radius is drawn from the water control structure not the extended shoreline and will make a little difference from the water control structure. Mr. Bowman stated that it would and as he appreciates it and having seeing all the structures for the Cameron - Creole Watershed project but has not physically looked at all the structures on the Sabine side, the one quarter mile radius would get to the end of the canal and actually protrude out into the lake. Mr. Jenkins stated that the intent is suppose to be a quarter of a mile out into the lake. Mr. McCall agreed. Mr. Jenkins stated the center that the radius was drawn from would be the extension of the center line of the canal out to the shoreline. After a short discussion it was decided to leave the rule as it was

written. Mr. McCall made a motion to adopt the rule on Calcasieu Sanctuaries. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously.\*

(The full text of the rule is made a part of the record)

RULE

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

TITLE 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

PART VII. FISH AND OTHER AQUATIC LIFE

CHAPTER 3. SALTWATER SPORT AND COMMERCIAL FISHING

SECTION 333. SANCTUARIES; CALCASIEU LAKE

The area within a one quarter mile radius on the lake side only of the Lambert, Grand Bayou, Mangrove, and Peconi water control structures (otherwise identified as structures no. 5, 1, 8 and 4 respectively), and the area within a one eighth mile radius on the lake side only of the water control structure on No Name Bayou, all within the Calcasieu Lake system; the area within a one quarter mile radius on the lake side only of the mouths of Three

Bayous and Willow Bayou where they empty into Sabine Lake are shrimp sanctuaries and closed zones and all netting of fish by any means or methods including but not limited to trawls, butterfly nets, gill nets, seines, or trammel nets, is hereby prohibited, with the exception of hand cast nets, <u>crab traps and crab drop nets</u>.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:315
HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (April 1990).

Warren Pol

Chairman

\*The above rule on Calcasieu Sanctuaries which was passed at the April 6, 1990 Commission meeting was not passed in its entirety as there was a portion left out accidentally during revision. The rule will be ratified in its entirety at the May Commission meeting on May 34, 1990.

At Friday's meeting Chairman Pol stated that Item #5 (Cameron - Creole Watershed) was proposed for future action to another board meeting. Dr. Hines stated that he thought everybody that was present at yesterday's meeting would accept no fishing 200 feet on the inland side from the water control structure; the law takes

care of the next 250 feet that they have to be at least 5 feet apart so you would have 500 feet more or less that there would be no blockage or limited blockage to the egress from that area. This might be a workable compromise that everybody can live with and Dr. Hines asked that everyone look into it. Chairman Pol stated that this is why he had postponed this issue until the next meeting so that everyone could reconsider and get the feelings of the all the landowners who are opposed and very possibly have considered legal action if the Commission goes ahead with this.

Mr. Jenkins commented that he agrees and maybe they should instruct the staff to look at this with whatever legal ramifications there may be with the present structures. There is a need to develop a policy for future structures before they are built. Secretary Van Sickle advised that her staff will do this and Chairman Pol advised that whatever time they need is fine but thinks maybe there should be a meeting with the property owners and try to work out something that will work for both parties. Mr. Jones stated that he thought Secretary Van Sickle brought up a good point yesterday that this was going to be a recurring problem and the Commission really needs to put some serious thought into this so that consistency can be maintained. Secretary Van Sickle advised that there are at least 15 major water management projects planned for next year and she has been assured by the legal staff on several occasions that Graverty Drainage District in Cameron Parish has no bearing over fish and wildlife and they cannot regulate it, they cannot preempt

this Commission. All future projects should be looked at in the same light so that everybody is treated fairly.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Johnnie Tarver discussed the Experimental Alligator Harvest Program, Marsh Island, 1989-90 Proposal. Tarver stated that alligators have been harvested on Marsh Island under an experimental program since/1981. The department will continue to request a experimental harvest program on Marsh Island probably for the next couple of years. The objectives for this project are to assess the reprodyctive rate of adult size female alligators, to evaluate the sex and size class frequency distribution of summer harvest in alligators, to evaluate the accuracy of a calculated of an optimum harvest and to evaluate population age structure. Since 1986/intensive work has been going on and 1,700 female alligator have been examined. As of this date over 5,200 alligators have been collected since 1986 and it has been found that 25.3 percent of the adult female, nest annually which is a little bit different than what had been reported. The overall sex ratio was 56 percent males and 46 percent females. In the immature classes there was 67 percent males and 33 percent females. From all the available data analyzed to generate population estimates, the harvest estimate and from other pieces of information on the harvest quota, the department calculates how many of these animal are taken off of Marsh Island. planned for 1,000 alligators to be taken off of Marsh Island. aging data indicates that there is varying growth rate from

different hab tats. Age structure is used to estimate populations. The department plans in 1990 to have a split season in May and July and there will be a selection of hunters, a sale of alligators and contracts and will be handled very similar as it has been in past years. Concluding Mr. Tarver advised the Commission that the Russell Sage Foundation requested that Mr. Tarver bring this information to the Commissioners (not for a vote) attention and seek public comments along these lines.

Chairman Pol asked if there were any questions or comments on the proposed alligator harvest on Marsh Island. Let the record show that there were no public comments from the audience on the Marsh Island alligator harvest season.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Bob Dennie presented a Resolution and Notice of Intent for Free Fishing Days, June 9-10, 1990. Mr. Dennie pointed out that on the agenda for the meeting there was a typo and the dates should be June 9-10 and not June 9-19. Mr. Dennie presented the resolution and Notice of Intent for the free fishing day to the Commission and advised that there are approximately 25 states that are doing the same program and about nine others with it under consideration. Chairman Pol called for a motion. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to adopt. It was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution

## is made a part of the record)

### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: Sportfishing provides recreation for more than sixty million Americans of all ages, giving families a healthy, shared outdoor activity, and

WHEREAS: Sportfishing, through the payment of millions of dollars annually for licenses, taxes and fees, has provided the funding for federal and state programs that contribute significantly to the preservation and protection of our natural environment, and

WHEREAS: The estimated 800,000 plus sportfishermen in Louisiana contribute in excess of one billion dollars annually to our economy, and

WHEREAS: Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature authorizes the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare no more than two free recreational fishing days each year, and

WHEREAS: Free Fishing Days during National Fishing Week would provide an excellent opportunity to introduce additional individuals to the wholesome outdoor activity of fishing.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That we the undersigned members of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission do hereby officially declare the week of June 4-10, 1990 as

### FISHING WEEK

in the state of Louisiana, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That June 9 and 10, 1990 are hereby declared free recreational fishing days, during which residents and non-residents may exercise the privileges of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

April 6, 1990

Warren I. Pol

Don Hines

Jimmy Jenkins

Bert Jones

Norman F. McCall

Joe Palmisano, Jr.

Peter G. Vujnovich, Sr.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

(The full text of the notice of intent is made a part of the record)

### NOTICE OF INTENT

# DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

In accordance with Act 301 of the 1987 Louisiana Legislature, it is the intent of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to declare June 9 and 10, 1990 as Free Recreational Fishing Days in Louisiana to coincide with National Fishing Week June 4-10, 1990. On the two above mentioned free fishing days, residents and non-residents may exercise the privilege of a licensed recreational fisherman without purchase of any otherwise necessary recreational fishing license.

Interested persons may submit their views in writing to Bob Dennie, Information and Education Director, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000.

CITATION: None - Changes Annually

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:302.7

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: ( ).

Warren Pol

Chairman

At Thursday's meeting Dr. Jerry Clark presented a Notice of Intent on the Black Drum Management Plan. Dr. Jerry Clark advised that starting last year when a stock assessment indicated that the black drum were being over-harvested in Louisiana a long series of activities were begun to get to where the department is today. Today a set of permanent rules, following two emergency rules, will be proposed to the Commission for the management of black drum in Louisiana Dr. Clark informed the Commissioners. An introduction was presented by Dr. Clark in which it was pointed out that the original stock assessments that were done and in which it was indicated that Louisiana was over-harvesting black drum were correct and that in 1987 and 1988 the harvest of black drum in Louisiana exceeded what would be considered acceptable under a conservation standard. The actions that have been taken were necessary and were predicated on good biological understanding of the specie. Another thing that was learned along the way was that principally the over-harvest had to do with the fact that this fish was being harvested at a very small size by a lot of people, both recreational and commercial fishermen. This is important because of the fact that this fish grows so fast and this predominates both

the biological, social and economic ways in which this fish is fished for. At age one on average this fish weighs just over half of pound; age two it weighs just over two and half pounds; and at age three it weighs over five pounds. Between age one and age three this fish gets to be about four times it weight and a lot of the things that have been discussed and information received on this fish has to do with how many pounds have been landed during each of those years with the question being if this was to many pounds or two few pounds thus not focusing on the fish itself advised Dr. Clark. The analysis that was done was focused on the number of fish involved in the harvest and thee is a great difference in whether or not you harvest 900 million pounds of 15 pound fish or 900 million pounds of half pound fish. Using the conservation standard that was put together by biologists, if harvesting fish at all sizes continue as has been done in the past, the maximum harvest would probably be around 5 million pounds in the state of Louisiana. If some minimum sizes were to be instituted this harvest and pounds can go from about 5 amillion pounds to almost 10 million pounds. If the fish are harvested at a little larger size then the poundage that was landed in 1987 and 1988 it would not be over-harvest if you were harvesting a fish of a different size advised Dr. Clark. number of fish caught have been focused on and not the number of pounds which has enabled the biologists to learn a lot about the fish and about its management. At this point Dr. Clark explained the Notice of Intent on the Black Drum and asked for comments or

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questions. Upon completion of explaining the notice Dr. Clark stated that this was a relatively complicated matter which has to with the fact that this fish has a relatively complicated life, it does not just grown up in one place and stay there it moves around, it has to do with the fact that this fish grown very rapidly and part of the proposed recommendation is to take advantage of this. There are literally an unlimited number of different strategies that people could come up with to harvest this fish that would all be biologically sound and Dr. Clark explained one of them which was the minimum size limit being lowered to 14 inches. So many fish have historically been harvested in or about 14 inches that they predominate in the historical records and the department's data indicates that if the minimum size limit was to be reduced from 16 to 14 inches the state would be moving into a group of fish that has been very heavily fished by both recreational and commercial fishermen over the last two or three years. If this is done the maximum amount of fish that could be harvested would be no more than about 5 million pounds and anything above would be overharvesting and violating the conservation standard. If the minimum size was reduced to 14 inches it would be acceptable with a 14 to 27 inch quota but there would not be any bull drum quota since the bull drum quota would be transferred to the small fish quota advised Dr. Clark. The reason the department has chosen the 16 inch over the 14 inch has to do with the fact that it makes since to try to land 10 million pounds in a biologically safe matter rather than 5 million pounds. Economic data shows that in the bull

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drum fishery these fish are only worth maybe a \$1 to a \$1.50 a piece which says that a commercial fisherman is only getting a \$1-\$1.50 for a 15 pound fish. If the size is 14 inches you are talking about a fish that only weighs between a half of pound and a pound and the prices received for some of these fish were as low as .25 a pound advised Dr. Clark. Concluding Dr. Clark stated that the recommendation that is being made to the Commission makes sense to the department but there are other choices that can be made which are within the biological standards and can be discussed at a later time.

Dr. Hines asked what happens between the 12th of April and the proposed opening date, September 1, 1990, of the fishery. Dr. Clark explained that there was a declaration of emergency in effect that would run out on August 11, 1990 and this rule would come into place before the August date. The counting of the quotas would start on September 1. Dr. Hines asked about reducing the length to 14 inches and having to give up 5 million pounds of fish. Dr. Clark advised that the best calculation is if this is reduced to 14 inches the 300,000 quota bull drum quota would simply go away which would be over 4 million pounds. This information is based on the department's biological data which has taken place over the last two or three years.

Mr. McCall stated that the fishermen that have talked to him seem to have great concern about the numbers of the big bull drum that

he market.

are being caught and have very little or no value on the market. They feel like it is a waste of reproductive resource to catch this big fish and in some cases get nothing for them. Mr. McCall have heard from two or three sources that a thousand heads were caught around the Leeville, Golden Meadow, Fourchon area and these fish were transported to Pasagoula, Mississippi, were turned down by the fish house, returned to Louisiana and finally just done away with. Mr. McCall pointed out if there were a thousand fish involved and they all weighed 25 to 30 pounds a piece you are talking about 25-30 pounds of fish that nobody received any value for and maybe it would make sense to take two inches off and get down to a 14 inch limit and then do away with the catching of these big bull drums. The Commission should seriously consider this stated Mr. McCall.

Dr. Clark responded that both fish are relatively low value, a 14 inch fish is also a low value fish mainly because it is very small and it does not weigh very much. Both the fish between 14 and 16 inches, and those over 27 inches, are relatively low value.

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Mr. McCall stated that he believes they are most probably of lower value because there is a better market for the smaller fish then it is for the big drum.

Captain Vujnovich commented that the big drum fish is a very dangerous fish for the commercial people, especially the people in the oyster industry. These fish will eat four to five hundred

sacks of oysters over night. When the crabs are scarce this is when they go after the oyster but if the crabs are abundant they love the crabs. Captain Vujnovich would like to see that the big drums are continued to be caught and commented that there is a market out there for the drum fish. To help the crabbers, oystermen and the shrimpers, Captain Vujnovich stated "let's do away with the big drum fish and try to save the small ones, then and maybe for the sports you can lower it two inches to catch the small fish but for the commercial let's keep it up".

11 he soid.

Mr. Mark Hiltzem addressed the Commission on behalf of the 8,500 members of GCCA on the proposed black drum regulations and plan. Mr. Hiltzem commented that there is no question that the black drum resources needed management. There has been a rapidly increasing commercial harvest since the early 80s' and black drum, like their cousin the red drum have certain qualities that can put them at These fish are long lived and become sexually mature at a risk. late age as juveniles they are an easy reach of the fishermen and fishing pressure, as adults they school tightly and are susceptible to purse seining, and are a good substitute for red fish and thus have a market attraction. Black drum are important recreationally and the plan states their value may be in excess of 4 million dollars using the most conservative evaluations considerably greater than the 2 million dollar commercial impact that is in the plan. Before the dramatic increase in commercial interest came in the early 80s' recreational landings outstripped

commercial landings. Contrary to what some would have you believe the black drum issue is not one of commercial versus recreational fishermen, it is one of conservation versus over-fishing and one of insuring that the management regime that is embarked upon in this plan is a sound one. It is this question of soundness and what the overall goals and objectives are that gives Mr. Hiltzem and many of his members great concern. Obviously if the goals and objectives are to harvest the resource quickly and efficiently and maximize the short term economic gains one kind of management regime is set up. If the goals and objectives are to generate a yield which are sustainable over the long run a different kind of plan is set up. It has always been the GCCA's philosophy that a plan is set up which establishes a harvest level which is sustainable over the long run and which allows the species to be healthy. Mr. Heiltzem is concerned that this plan does not do this. First, no where in Section 1.3 in the Goals and Objectives of Management is there any language about maximum sustainable yield, language like on a continuing basis, any mention of avoiding over fishing, or fishing so as not to deplete, any mention of using the best economic and sociological information in making the plan decisions and yet these were all concepts that were all embraced by the Finfish Advisory Panel in their recommendations in September for a policy for Louisiana. This section which establishes the whole direction of the plan carefully avoids committing itself to conservation, to long range management. If the goals are to avoid conservation then a plan will be set up to achieve that goal and

Mr. Heiltzem thinks the logic follows with this plan. It is knowfrom experience with red drum that a proper supply of spawn is critical yet we disregard this lesson in this plan and encourage a substantial 4.5 million pounds or more annual harvest of The plan bases the ability to do this on a new spawners. conservation standard which does not discuss escapement but rather which say that since there are many well populated older age classes in the spawning population it is o.k. to take many of these It says that the relative number of fish in all classes of adults can be reduced to a considerably lower level and still not fear that it will threaten the long term abundance and this may be right but is it a tried and a proven approach, does it err on the side of the resource, will it stand up over the long haul, does it establish a harvest level which can be sustained and which sound business activity can be based on, does it protect the Should the plan's commercial annual harvest be reached reported landings will be around 7.7 million pounds which will be up and this represents a 100 percent increase over the most recent ten year average of 3.87 million pounds. Within those ten years are years which Dr. Clark informed the Commission of over fishing. If the ten year average is used for trout and red drum when the management regimes are established then why is it not look at for The black drum plan as it is presently written reminds Mr. Heiltzem of the proposed shark plan. It admits the need for conservation and then it recommends fishing at a level above o∉ MSY. Isn't the ten year average the accepted MSY figure.

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Like the shark plan it also mandates a cut back on the part of recreational and then turns around and gives the fish (adults) to the harvesters. GCCA is not going to war over this fish, not yet, but they are concerned that this plan does not err on the side of the resource, may seriously impact the recreational fishery and can be quite dangerous to the resource. Concluding Mr. Heiltzem stated that fortunately there were ninety days to make comments on this plan and make the appropriate changes and asked the Commission and department to please be cautious.

Henry Brown, commercial fishermen, addressed the Commission. Mr. Mr. Brown commented that Dr. Clark had stated that there were 8 million pounds of black drum that were harvested and this implied that there was an emergency situation but what is being proposed is an 8 million pound harvest and Mr. Brown does not see where this is an emergency. If the department is going to continue to have the 300,000 pound bull drum fishery and a 16 inch harvest of puppy drum they are back where they started from. Mr. Brown recommended that Louisiana go with the rest of the Gulf states; Alabama and Mississippi have no size limit or production limit, Florida has a 14 inch fish and Texas has a 14 inch fish. Louisiana does not need a 16 inch fish and the 14 inch fish is worth more than a bull drum and when you get into the upper class, five pound fish, it is worth twice or three times of what an adult fish is stated Mr. Brown. This information was received from the Department of Commerce this morning advised Mr. Brown and thinks the department needs to study what the economical impact of the small drum fishery is to the commercial community in the State of Louisiana.

Mr. McCall asked what a 14 inch black drum was worth. Mr. Brown stated that it would be a three pound fish and at the current market it is worth \$1.50 a pound. Dr. Hines asked Mr. Brown what a big fish was worth. Mr. Brown stated that it is according, sometimes .50 - .75 up to \$2.00 total. There was a short discussion on the value of the fish as compared to Dr. Clark's and Mr. Brown's information which differs. Dr. Clark's information was obtained from LSU which are averages over several years on thousands of fish. Mr. Brown's information was obtained from the Assessment Stock Group, 1989.

Secretary Van Sickle asked Dr. Clark if he had copies of the Black Drum Plan for the Commissioners. Dr. Clark advised that all he had was a first draft of the plan and he has not even edited it yet.

Chairman Pol advised that the Commission will vote on this Notice of Intent on Black Drum at tomorrow's meeting.

At Friday's meeting Dr. Clark presented the notice of intent on the Black Drum Management Plan for adoption and highlighted the rule for those attending the meeting. Dr. Clark advised that there are basically three principle parts which are the recreational

recreational component and two commercial components. The/ component is a 5 fish bag limit and a 16-27 inon slot limit with 1 over the slot being acceptable. The first part of the commercial component is also the 16 - 27 slot limit with the proposed quota in the first year of 3,250,000 pounds/and the second part is a commercial quota for fish over that 6f 300,000 fish. There is a fishing year of September 1, 1990 and every September 1 thereafter and when the commercial quotas are reached the fishery will close independent₩ of will be each other This will required the department to adopt a independently. policy, probably the first time in the state, that has been used in the federal waters for a number of years which is an annual tack and will require review of the policy on an annual basis, looking at the biology, landings and perhaps coming back and modifying the total allowable catch that will be acceptable in each and every This policy has been used as a fishery management technique in the Gulf for many years by the Gulf Council. Chairman Pol asked Dr. Clark if the Commission had the authority to change this ruling once they have voted on it. Dr. Clark advised that it can be changed at the meeting when the rule is brought up for adoption. Dr. Hines believes that public input is needed from the commercial fishermen. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to adopt the notice of intent on the black drum plan. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall. Captain Vujnovich opposed the notice of intent on the black drum plan. The motion passed.

(The full text of the notice of intent is made a part of the record)

### Notice of Intent

# Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to adopt rules and regulations establishing size limits, quotas and special license requirements for the harvest of black drum.

The proposed black drum measures are as follows:

Title 76

Wildlife and Fisheries

Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

- Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing
- Section 311. Black Drum Size Limits, Daily Take and Possession Limits, Quotas and Special Permit Requirements.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the following rules and regulations for the taking of black drum (Pogonias cromis(:

The daily take and possession limit for black drum caught recreationally within or without Louisiana waters shall be five (5) fish per day and in possession.

The minimum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be sixteen (16) inches total length.

The maximum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be twenty-seven (27) inches total length; provided however that recreational fishermen shall be allowed to take and possess one black drum per day over twenty-seven inches. It is provided further that commercial fishermen, when in possession of a "Special Black Drum Permit", shall be allowed to take and possess black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches in unlimited quantities until the annual quota has been met.

The annual commercial quota for sixteen (16) to twenty-seven (27) inch black drum shall be 3,250,000 pounds.

The annual commercial quota for black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches shall be 300,000.

The fishing year for black drum shall begin on September 1, 1990 and every September 1st thereafter.

A "Special Black Drum Permit" shall be annually required for persons commercially taking black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches and each "Special Black Drum Permit" holder shall on or before the tenth of each month make a return to the department on forms provided or approved for the purpose, the number of black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches taken commercially during the preceding month.

Once the black drum commercial quota(s) has been met; the purchase, barter, trade or sale of black drum taken in Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. The commercial taking or landing of black drum in Louisiana, whether caught within or without the territorial waters of Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. Nothing in this rule shall be deemed to prohibit the possession of fish legally taken prior to the closure order.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall, by public notice, close the commercial fishery(s) for black drum when the quota(s) has been met or is projected to

be met. The closure shall not take effect for at least seventy-two (72) hours after notice to public.

Authority for adoption of this rule is contained in Sections 6(10), 326.1 and 326.3 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to: John E. Roussel, Marine Fisheries, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with 56:6(10)326.1, 326.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (
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Warren Pol Chairman

At Thursday's meeting Dr. Jerry Clark gave an Update on Black Drum and Spotted Seatrout Quotas. Dr. Clark reported that the last time the spotted seatrout quota was discussed a late March or early April closing date was projected which was based upon landings that did not include January because of the hard freeze and the information was not available. The department finally received the January landings and the Pealer's reported 73,550 pounds which is

considerably below normal. Dr. Clark pointed out that while the September landings were much greater than normal, this year has been a special year because just about every one of the months are outside the computer model. The current estimate is that sometime in late April or May the quota will be reached and the extension should not surprise anyone because of the impact of the freeze. Current landings so far in the fishing year is 840,195 pounds.

Mr. Jenkins asked Dr. Clark if January landings were the latest that he had. Dr. Clark stated "yes" and do not have any indication that the fish were more available in February or March than they were in January. Dr. Clark asked Mr. John Roussel to address the Commission on when the February landings will be received. Roussel advised that there is some preliminary data on February landings but it is not all the data and reminded the Commission that the department went to a new reporting system starting in January as mandated by the new legislation that was passed. with all new systems there are problems in getting it going and getting everybody in line and Mr. Roussel guesses that the earliest a February figure would be received that would even resemble a final representation of what was caught would probably be about the Mr. Jenkins asked Dr. Clark what the projected end of April. closure date would be. Dr. Clark advised that as of right now it would be late April or early May but this is based on a normal February.

Secretary Van Sickle pointed out that John Roussel and Dr. Clark made an excellent representation to the Finfish Panel last week on the Black Drum Plan. This plan does meet maximum substantial yield and it goes further than MSY. Months and months have been spent on this with twenty different scientists coming up with these particular recommendations which can be changed shifting the size of the fish, etc. As far as over fishing and being able to sustain black drum on a continuing basis is that indeed what this plan accomplished asked Secretary Van Sickle. Dr. Clark answered to the best of the biologists ability "yes" at this date with the data that they have.

Dr. Clark went on to report on the black drum harvest. The projected harvest through April 12, 1990 is 246, 858 fish which is well within the quota limits.

Chairman Pol thanked Dr. Clark for his reports and stated that Item #10, Dr. Clark's State-of-the-State Report, would be given at Friday's meeting.

At Friday's meeting Dr. Jerry Clark gave his State-of-the-State Report on Marine Fisheries, Trends in Recreational/Commercial Fishing. Dr. Clark presented this report at last months' Commission meeting held in Monroe, Louisiana which has been recorded in the March minutes of the Commission meeting. The materials presented today are basically the same materials that

were presented in Monroe with the addition of increase in efforts and landings. Dr. Clark also highlighted the materials on license information that was not available at last months' meeting. The complete context of this report is also recorded on the tapes of the April Commission Meeting.

Secretary Van Sickle informed Carla Faulkner and Dawn deBore (I&E) that she would like a feature written to be distributed to all of the outdoor press about Dr. Clark's presentation.

Upon conclusion of Dr. Clark's report Chairman Pol stated that this was a terrific report and he hopes the people look at it and realize the work that has gone into it. Chairman Pol then asked for comments and questions.

Mr. Mark Hiltzem stated that Dr. Clark was talking about the incredible escalating tuna and shark fisheries and assuming that these are basically long line fisheries, to which Dr. Clark answered they were, that several years ago legislation was passed and the federal government likewise passed some legislation through the Council process to protect billfish (bycatch) in the Atlantic, Gulf and Caribbean and just recently the activities of these councils in the billfish plan were upheld legally. Can it be assumed that there is a rapidly escalating bycatch and kill of billfish as a result of these escalating fisheries asked Mr. Hiltzem. Dr. Clark stated that he had read the legal case that Mr.

Heiltzem is referring to and as he understands it the principle case brought against this was that there was a bycatch of those billfish and since they were caught and were going to be dead those who killed them wanted to sell them. The plan prohibited this so this was the principle part of the case and the answer to Mr. Heiltzem question must be "yes" because this was the basis of the case stated Dr. Clark. Mr. Heiltzem commented that the theory was not to create a market because some fish do survive a long line process and we are ahead of the game in trying to conserve to put these fish back in the water. Dr. Clark agreed and advised that the bluefin tuna which is about to disappear from the Gulf is only now a bycatch fishery and everybody is out in the Gulf trying to do a bycatch on bluefin tuna. If bycatch is allowed then the fishery is allowed stated Dr. Clark. Mr. Heiltzem asked if something is able to be done under the Magnuson Act could this be controlled. Dr. Clark answered "absolutely" and made a point that one of the principle arguments against putting tunas in the act was that they are a highly migratory species and therefore if you do not kill them somebody else will. The mackerel fishery in the Gulf of Mexico is a highly migratory species but the Council went ahead and put a very restrictive set of quotas on mackerels and in each of the last three years the mackerel fishery has been improving in The argument that "if we don't kill them the Gulf of Mexico. somebody else will" does not necessarily work all the time in all places stated Dr. Clark. Secondly, Dr. Clark cannot think of a worst reason to over fish something. Mr. Heiltzem commented that

the trends in the oceanic recreational fishery are frightening and asked Dr. Clark if he had explanations of those trends as a lack of effort or combination of effort and lack of availability of fish. Dr. Clark stated that he believes that the increasing restrictions that are being placed upon recreational and commercial fishermen in the Gulf of Mexico is having a dramatic effect on the number of people in the fishery. Mr. Heiltzem asked if it would be appropriate to use Wallop-Breaux funding for something like this. Dr. Clark answered "yes".

Mr. Wilbert Collins, Oyster Fisherman, addressed the Commission and stated that he had two things he wanted to talk about and they were black drum and red drum. Mr. Collins stated that he has been an oyster fisherman for 37 years on the water and sees more drums now than he has ever seen before and when you talk about \$1.00-\$1.75 a bull drum it sounds pretty cheap but when a bull drum eats 5-6 sacks of oysters and 1-2 barrels of shrimp then it really is expensive. Mr. Collins would like to see a law put on the 14 inch but would like to see the bull drum done away with if they are not wasted. Mr. Collins went on to talk about the percentage of oysters in Louisiana and stated that from his survey of the amount of oysters harvested that most of them came from oyster farms this year and the last three years. The amount of oysters could be doubled on the wild reefs if they were well managed.

At Friday's meeting Colonel Winton Vidrine gave the Monthly Law Enforcement Report for March. Colonel Vidrine reported the following cases:

Region I - Minden - 196

Region II - Monroe - 133

Region III - Alexandria - 233

Region IV - Ferriday - 87

Region V - Lake Charles - 320

Region VI - Opelousas - 230

Region VII - Baton Rouge - 222

Region VIII - New Orleans - 326

Region IX - Gray/Houma - 367

The offshore boats had 33 cases. The new Oyster Task Force which started doing enforcement work on the 23rd of March issued 54 citations. The total cases made for the month of March was 2,309 cases and in comparison to last year's cases (1,658) shows an increase of 651 citations issued for the month of March. The total number of cases include cases made by Wildlife Specialists from the Game Division and Fur/Refuge Division. Colonel Vidrine informed the Commission that arrangements had been made with Jefferson Parish officials (police juries) and the department was able to bury a little over 2 million feet of confiscated gill nets, trammel nets and 300 trawls. Chairman Pol asked if any record had been kept of what has been done with the 30 foot boat from the

Atchafalaya Delta. Secretary Van Sickle advised that approval from the Division of Administration had been received earlier this week giving the department authority to transfer the position (boat captain) to the Law Enforcement Division but has not been filled reasons it had to go through the Division yet. Administration was because it was in the Office of Wildlife and the position was being transferred to the Office of the Secretary which is budgetary rules. Colonel Vidrine advised that he will have to call for a Civil Service list and the plans are for putting an agent in the position and having him run the boat. Mr. Jenkins asked if there will be special qualifications for the person hired to run the boat. Colonel Vidrine answered "no". Dr. Hines asked what the fine was for fishing without a license. Colonel Vidrine advised it was \$25 - \$125, Class 1 violation. Dr. Hines stated that over a fourth of the citations were fishing without a license and cane poles (\$5 fine) should be \$25. Secretary Van Sickle advised that one thing that is being learned from the disposition reports from District Attorney offices is that a lot of the people are never brought to court when there is only a \$25 fine. are more serious crimes and the officials will not send anyone out to pick up the person with the \$25 fine. The department will be meeting with the District Attorney's Association next week and some of them are advising the department that they pick up driver's licenses.

Mr. Jones asked about turkey hunting and if it was legal to carry a .22 pistol while turkey hunting. Colonel Vidrine advised that it was legal as long as the pistol was not used to take the turkey.

Captain Vujnovich thanked Colonel Vidrine for the wonderful job that the Oyster Strike Force has been doing which will benefit the Louisiana oyster industry. The industry will have a much better FDA rating with the strike force in place. Colonel Vidrine announced that a new pilot has been hired and will be stationed out of New Iberia starting this Monday morning. Secretary Van Sickle announced that the new pilot is 100% law enforcement and Gene Rackle, another pilot, will continue to fly for enforcement.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Hugh Bateman presented a Resolution and Notice of Intent for the Proposed Resident Game Regulations, 1990. Mr. Bateman explained the contents of the packet of information that had been given to each Commissioners on the hunting recommendations. The Game Division developed a set of recommendations which were presented to the Hunting Regulations Committee. The committee consisted of Bert Jones, Don Hines, Jimmy Jenkins with Chairman Warren sitting in. Mr. McCall is a member also but was unable to attend the meeting on March 23, 1990 which was held at the Baton Rouge Headquarters. The proposal being presented represents what the committee developed as suggestions in concert with what the department staff provided the committee at the meeting. The department staff and the committee also worked

on options, suggestions and changes at the March meeting which mostly involved the deer and turkey hunting seasons. Mr. Bateman proceeded to give the recommendations for the 1991 season and the summary of changes.

In the hunting pamphlets for this year an explanation of the provisions for the civil penalties will be given. This is a new rule that the department has in place where there will be a civil penalty asset for various animals. All small game seasons will be basically only a calendar change from last year with the exception of the squirrel season which will be extended to January 27. A brand new season has been recommended in a small area in southwest Louisiana, where there will be an experimental pheasant season which has resulted from stocking efforts over the last several years.

Mr. Bateman went over the season dates and changes for 1990 -91 deer hunting. Area I - Nov. 10-25 (16 days still hunting only); Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloaders only); Dec. 8-Jan. 13 (With or without dogs). This season was lengthened from 56 days to 60 days with 7 days added to the still hunt only segment, 3 days removed from the segment with or without dogs. Area II - Nov. 3-30 (28 days still hunting only); Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloaders only); Dec. 8-Jan. 1 (25 days with or without dogs). This season was lengthened from 56 days to 60 days with 5 days added to the still hunt only segment, 1 day removed from the segment with or without dogs. In

conjunction with Areas II and III season dates a fairly dramatic change over 600,000 acres of public lands in Kisatchie National Forest has been recommended which shortens the deer season and the dates would be Nov. 3-11 and Nov. 23-25 giving 12 total days of still hunting. The muzzleloader season would be Dec. 1-2 giving 2 days of muzzleloader. Dec. 8-9 and Dec. 26-30 giving 7 days with or without dogs. Total season length on the Kisatchie National Forest of 21 days which is a reduction of 35 days from the year before.

There has been a increase in the number of either sex hunting days from 8 to 13 in District I in northwest Louisiana for Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, Desoto, Red River and Webster Parishes.

Area III - Dates identical to Area II and still hunting only. Season was lengthened from 56 days to 60 days with 5 additional days for the first segment, 1 day removed from the third segment and either sex days are only a calendar date change from last year.

Areas IV, V - Remain unchanged except for calendar date changes from last year. West Carroll Parish in Area IV is a special short season that was requested because of the lost of woodlands. Hunting season dates for Area V in West Carroll Parish would be Nov. 17-25, Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader only). This would be 9 days of still hunting for guns and 7 days of still hunting for muzzleloaders. Area V the season dates would be Nov. 17-25 (9 days

of still hunting); Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader only); Dec. 8-Jan. 6 (still hunting only).

Mr. Bateman summarized the turkey season. Area A turkey season dates or calendar date changes from last season. The parishes of Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, Desoto, Red River, Webster and portions of Lincoln and Avoyelles were combined to form a new Area D with a short 16 day, three weekend, April 13-28 season. These areas have previously been closed to turkey hunting but due to a successful restoration efforts by the department, sportsmen, public landowners, corporate landowners, LA Wild Turkey Federation, etc. there will be a season in 1991. Other season dates for turkey are: Area A - 30 day season, Mar. 30-April 28, 1991; Area B - 37 day season, Mar. 23-April 28, 1991 - change from last year and represents a one week later season opening in those particular parishes in southeast Louisiana; Area C - 9 day season, April 20-28, 1991; Area D - April 13-28, 1989, 16 days.

Upon presenting the main changes in the deer hunting seasons and the turkey hunting seasons, Mr. Bateman asked Mr. Tommy Prickett to go through the Wildlife Management Areas (WMA's) changes which there were only about eight or nine.

Mr. Prickett commented that the Commission was aware that the department manages 40 WMA's that encompass almost a million acres. Some of the changes on the WMA's this year are: Implement self-

clearing turkey permit stations on some WMA's this year. They will be operated that when a hunter comes in the morning he will receive a permit and as he leaves the area in the afternoon he will write down the information that is requested, thus enabling the department to know how many people are using the areas and how many turkeys are taken; there is one new WMA's this year, Little River WMA, in Grant Parish which is about 3,000 acres and seasons will be set on this area for the first time; lack of daily check-in, check-out deer hunts on a majority of WMA's. This year the department is going to go to self-clearing hunts or no check-in hunts on the WMA's. At least once every three years an attempt will be made to run a check-in, check-out hunt on WMA's for deer hunting. This year for the first time on Thanksgiving weekend the department will not be checking hunters in and out on the WMA's. The other seasons, youth hunts, muzzleloader hunts, special hunts squirrel, rabbit and raccoon will be handled much the same as they were last year advised Mr. Prickett.

Dr. Hines asked about the muzzleloader season just being December 1-2 whereas last year it was for 7 days but was not mentioned on the change. Mr. Prickett commented that on most the areas this year the District supervisors came with a recommendation for a two day, either sex season which would be the first weekend. This would be compatible with what the department is recommending on the National Forest lands. There was not that much participation on the WMA's for the muzleloader hunts last year but if the

participation increases in the future Mr. Prickett thinks the district supervisor will change this recommendation. It is the option of the Commission if they want to increase the days but the department believes this will satisfy the needs for muzzleloader on the WMA's. Dr. Hines asked that since during the regular season there will be no check-in stations what difference does it make to just open it up for the 7 days if there is not a lot of participation, this would give a few people a few days to hunt. Prickett stated that this could certainly be done and department people will be out there to enforce the game laws during the additional days but does not know the effect it will have on the other seasons that are proposed on the WMA's. This can be check out. Dr. Hines asked that this be checked out and see if there would be undue hardship on the staff by keeping it opened the whole week.

Mr. Bateman asked Mr. Larry Soileau to address the Commission on federal agencies and federal lands. Mr. Soileau reported as part of the Kisatchie National Forest there are two management areas that are managed by the U.S. Forest Service which are Catahoula National Wildlife Preserve and Red Dirt. Staffs from the Service and department have met and are recommending 5 days of either sex on the two preserve with a youth hunt and a muzzleloading hunt. This is basically the same seasons they have had in past years. There are three other special areas which are the Louisiana Army Ammo Plant at Minden, Barksdale Air Force Base at Bossier City and

Avery Island that have special seasons. These seasons have been enforced for a number of year and there are no changes proposed.

Mr. Soileau pointed out that included in the Commissioner's packet there is a letter from Jim Pulliam dated March 30, 1990, which outlines a request for hunting programs on eight refuges located in Louisiana and these have been developed mutually by the staff of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. The Commission's action will cover these items Dr. Hines asked if the letter from Mr. concluded Mr. Soileau. Pulliam is requesting that steel shot be used for squirrel hunting. Mr. Soileau advised that this is not proposed for this year but if the Commissioners will notice in the second paragraph of the letter that the states have been put on notice that in those areas that have wetlands that are hunted for waterfowl that possibly next year this can be expected and squirrel hunters and rabbit hunters hunting in wetlands will be required to use steel shot.

Mr. "Cotton" Fairchild, former Commission member, addressed the Commission and asked Mr. Bateman what the dates were that the staff recommended for deer hunting. Mr. Bateman stated that they recommended a calendar date change from last year. Mr. Fairchild pointed out that these dates were Nov. 17-25, Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader) and Dec. 8-Jan. 16. Mr. Fairchild asked Mr. Bateman about the turkey season. Mr. Bateman stated he thought there was one recommended change in the Florida parishes for a one week later season other than the new areas that opened so the seasons were

basically the same as last year. Mr. Fairchild pointed out that these dates were March 16 - April 21 which is 37 days and proceeded to give a history of how turkeys were stocked in his area. Fairchild recommended that the Commission follow the advice of the department biologists on the setting of the seasons. Mr. Fairchild went on to discuss the black bear situation and commented that the last black bear that he knew about that was killed over in his area was just before the 1927 flood and there wasn't a bear in that country for over 30 years. In 1965 the LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries went to Minnesota to transport bear back to Louisiana. There were 161 bear brought back to Louisiana and 131 bear were put into the Atchafalaya Basin and 30 were turned out in In 1973 the high water dispersed the bear in Madison and Tensas. the basin. Mr. Fairchild advised that right now there are plenty of bear and if the bear is put on the endangered species landowners will be told what they can and cannot do with and on their lands. Mr. Fairchild stated that the bears that are over there now are Minnesota bears and not Louisiana bears concluded Mr. Fairchild.

Mr. John Barton addressed the commission and commended the department on the biologists that it has working for them. Louisiana has not touched the potential of its ability to produce game and/or fish stated Mr. Barton. Mr. Barton recommended to the Commission that without any questions that Louisiana does its very best to continue to attract the capable people that are in the department and then to follow their recommendations until such time

that it can be proven otherwise or in fact unless it can be shown to the biologists that what they are recommending is not for the best interest of all concern. Mr. Barton also recommended to the Commission that the date recommendations, game takings, etc. by the biologists be followed. Mr. Barton went on to ask why are the gun people denied a whole week while the muzzleloaders have the opportunity to shoot. Why can't muzzleloaders be shot the same time the rifles are shot and Mr. Barton would like the Commission to consider this.

Mr. J. L. Schillings, President, Livingston Parish Police Jury addressed the Commission on the dog season. At a recent Police Jury Convention a resolution was passed asking the Commission to reinstate the 47 days with or without dogs in the State of Louisiana. Mr. Schillings asked the Commission if their resolution meant anything, if the public hearings meant anything and the fact that dog hunters out number the still hunters. The dog hunters are still getting cut and soon it will not be feasible to own dogs stated Mr. Schillings. Mr. Schillings pointed out that he hunts in the basin and from Highway 1 to the Interstate there is one still hunting club in that area that hunts on 1,800 acres of land that they lease from his hunting club and the rest of the clubs dog hunt. Why does the department have to penalize the dog hunters for that one still hunting club asked Mr. Schillings and why can't the dog hunters have their 47 days like they had asked for? Mr.

Schillings asked the Commission and department to take this into consideration before they set the seasons.

Mr. David Ellison, Sunset, Louisiana, addressed the Commission. Mr. Ellison stated that he would briefly like to echo something that Mr. Barton had said. The turkey season over at Lottie always started on the second Saturday in March and now it has moved up and will be moved up again stated Mr. Ellison. Mr. Ellison asked the Commission to ask Mr. Bateman and his biologists to see if there is any biological support that the breeding season and the hunting season should commence a little earlier and would appreciate it if the Commission would consider deferring there decision on the season until a report can be made by the biologists.

Mr. Dick Smith, Louisiana Dog Hunters Association, addressed the Commission. Mr. Smith asked about the Kisatchie National Forest deer season and if the department planned to reopen this area in two years, if the deer herd come back, to coincide with the areas on the outside. Mr. Soileau explained that he doubted that the long bucks only season will be reinstated and the long range plan is to manage this 600,000 acres of public lands more like the 900,000 acres of public land in the wildlife management area program. The difference between private lands that are leased and controlled by clubs is that the hunting pressure is controlled by the members of the club while on public lands there is no control of the hunting other than the season length and the bag limit and

for this reason Mr. Soileau would suspect that it is doubtful that the season on Kisatchie will be lengthened much beyond than what has been proposed.

Mr. Smith went on to advise that most of the big companies require that their employees post their vacations by March 1 and the hunters never know exactly when the dates will be set for deer season. The deer populations have move to the point where the seasons should be consistent every year unless something drastic occurs stated Mr. Smith and he would like to see the deer season setup as a year in advance.

Mr. Ray Lenew, President of Southern Louisiana's Dog Hunters Association, addressed the Commission. Mr. Lenew stated that the survey that was done this year supposedly shows that dog season is very unpopular in the state and that still hunting is very popular and this is part of the reason why dog days are being lost this year. The Police Jury Association has passed a resolution to not only not cut the dog season but also increase it this year. If this is such a big problem then why do the policy juries and parish seats vote to not only not cut dog season but to increase it asked Mr. Lenew. When the public hearings were held the still hunters were out numbered, in some cases, 4-1 and if they were that interested in increasing the still season where were they asked Mr. Lenew. The way that things are going there will be no dog hunting of any type in the future stated Mr. Lenew and asked the Commission

to please consider the parish resolutions, the public hearings, etc. when dealing with this issue.

Chairman Pol stated that he personally has received over 400 letters from still hunters so when it is said that the still hunters were not in attendance at the meetings it does not mean that they have not been heard from. Chairman Pol commented that he doesn't see where the dog hunters were cut that much and whereas if the survey would have been followed in setting the dog season it would have been cut much more and this was not done to hurt the dog hunter.

Mr. Rip Miller, Baton Rouge Businessman, landowner in Louisiana and Mississippi, addressed the Commission for the non-vocal still hunters and landowners. Mr. Miller stated that he says non-vocal is because most of the time the reason you do not hear from the still hunters and the landowners is due to fear of the dog hunters. Mr. Miller has personally been vandalized and has had problems. People will not go to a meeting because of fear but they will write letters and this is where the letters are coming from advised Mr. Miller. Hunting with dogs is an old tradition in Louisiana and Mr. Miller stated that he use to hunt with dogs and respects a man's right to do so. Mr. Miller proposed that the number of dog days be cut and give the still hunters a little more time to hunt undisturbed. The still hunters should have an equal number of hunting days and Mr. Miller asked that the survey be followed or

conduct another one to make sure it is adequate and appropriate and actually shows the feelings of the majority of the hunters in the state who are afraid to come and speak to a group such as this one.

Mr. Charles Womack, Louisiana Dog Hunting Association, addressed the Commission. Mr. Womack stated that at this time he does not have any problem with the recommendations but does have some questions that he would like to ask Mr. Bateman about the Kisatchie. When the hunting days are taken away from an area like Kisatchie where will the hunting pressure go and what does it do with the surrounding areas asked Mr. Womack. Mr. Bateman asked Mr. Soileau to address the question. Mr. Soileau stated that it is felt like the Kisatchie National Forest is public lands and those hunters cannot be displaced from public lands onto private lands, which are leased lands, so it is felt like those leased lands are not going to be dramatically impacted. Mr. Womack asked then where will the hunters that normally go to Kisatchie to hunt go. Soileau advised that they are going to continue to hunt on public lands if they do not have leases of their own but will hunt over a shorter period of time.

Mr. Danny Lazarus addressed the Commission and stated that he had heard from each of the Commission members about the 400 letters and apparently each of the Commission members received the same 400 letters. Chairman Pol stated that he really did not if they were the same. Mr. Lazarus advised that last year the dog hunter of the

state presented the Commission with a petition with several thousands signatures and just as easily could have gotten them to sign a form letter like the Commissioners received from the still hunters. Chairman Pol advised that all he wanted to do was just to make a point that the still hunters had been heard from. Mr. Lazarus stated that he understood and he just wanted to make it clear that last year the letters were sent from the dog hunters and they did not do any good. The Commissioners could have gotten a lot of letters this year from dog hunters but it was stopped because it was felt like the Commissioners did not need to be bothered with the letters and they knew what was going on with dog hunting and still hunting. Mr. Lazarus stated that next year may be a different story if the letters are going to account for that much.

Mr. Rodney Calvin, Arcadia, Louisiana, addressed the Commission and asked about the survey. There are forty three members of his club in Northwest Lincoln Parish and only one member received the survey and Mr. Calvin was wondering why no one else received one. Mr. Soileau responded to the question and advised that there were 178,000 big game licenses sampled at a 5 percent which means that one out of every 20 hunters who purchased a license during that year was likely to receive a survey card and by chance out of 43 hunters only 1 received it instead of the sampling rate of 2. The sample design was done by the Department of Experimental Statistics at LSU and Dr. Vernon Wright has sent letters asking any one who

challenges his survey to send it to a competent referee and he is very confident that the results of the survey will stand critical examination. Mr. Calvin asked the Commission to please do not take away their heritage on dog hunting.

Mr. Elton Leech addressed the Commission and asked if they would consider redesigning the big game license and put a question on the bottom of it which says do you want to hunt with or without dogs. Mr. Bateman responded to the question and stated that he would like to lay the questionnaire issue to rest once and for all. Soileau just advised that the department had the very best statistical people in this state at the university design this The department did not design the survey which was a study. recommendation that came from the Deer Task Force and anyone who has a problem with the survey needs to address it to LSU and not to the department advised Mr. Bateman. This is the second survey that has been done in about 5 or 6 years and the results of both surveys came out almost exactly the same. The department is confident that the survey was done properly, it reflects adequately and accurately what the feelings of most people that hunt in Louisiana are regarding the use of dogs and this is simply another tool to consider in making decisions commented Mr. Bateman. seem) to be the stigma among both sides of the dog issue that it is primarily biological which is not true. This problem is social and it is a criminal trespass type thing and this is part of the The biggest biological biggest problems that Louisiana has.

problem with the use of dogs in Lowisiana has nothing to do with the fall and winter hunting, it has to do with the fact that because of existing state law there are two things done. One is that people are allowed to go on private property and retrieve dogs and the other statute give you very, very week trespass control. The training of hunting dogs year around is also allowed in Louisiana and the people need to get away from the confusion about where the biological issues are in the state regarding deer management stated Mr. Bateman. Mr. Leech continued and stated that he thought the recommendation that the muzzleloaders hunt with the rest of the still hunters is a good idea and maybe gives a better break to the still hunter.

Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Bateman why weren't the muzzleloader put in with the other hunting days. Mr. Bateman commented that the state statutes regarding the muzzleloader require that you set special muzzleloader only seasons and it even specifies the amount for the license. A recommendation was made last year that the muzzleloader season be put in between the two gun seasons when it would be less disruptive for either activity that had been going on during those two segments. This change was not implemented and the Commission and the Assistant Secretary, Office of Wildlife, made the decision at that time that a weekend be tacked on to the muzzleloader season because of the fact that \$10.50 was being charged for the license and they did not feel that five weekdays were enough. The biologists do not think that the muzzleloaders should have a

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opportunity to shoot deer prior to the time that the 180,000 other hunters get a chance to get into the woods, therefore an early season is unwise stated Mr. Bateman. Another option would have been to put the muzzleloader season at the end of the gun season which was discussed at two staff meeting but the recommendation was made that the season stay where it was. Mr. Jenkins asked if this particular season and the way it is set is a staff recommendation. Mr. Bateman answered "yes". Chairman Pol asked how many muzzleloader licenses were sold last year. Ms. Bettsie Baker advised that there is not a total count yet but somewhere between 6,000 - 8,000 licenses probably. Mr. Bateman stated that the estimate Ms. Barker just gave is probably right.

Mr. John Barton addressed the Commission and made a suggestion for the Commission's consideration. Mr. Barton stated that one thing that has not been talked about when talking about dogs or still hunting is terrain. All of the terrain in Louisiana is not the same and in Mr. Barton's opinion there are such area in Louisiana as the Atchafalaya River and Atchafalaya bottoms where dog hunting does not disturb anybody. Mr. Barton was raised on this kind of hunting in these kinds of areas and he loves it. On the other hand Mr. Barton has tried and is presently trying to conserve game in East Feliciana Parish on property that he owns and he will vote for still hunting only in that area the reason being that unfortunately the hunters do not do all the right things. This is not so in the Atchafalaya River bottoms nor is it so in the lake swamps and other

areas of Louisiana where Mr. Barton thinks if you are careful and it is studied properly there can be an in between solution that will let both sides live.

Chairman Pol asked Mr. Bateman when did the time expire to act on the resolution and notice of intent pertaining to the hunting seasons. Mr. Bateman stated that the APA requires that action needs to be taken by the 10th of this month and if this is not done it will put the Commission and department into a situation where this rule will not be ratified until July instead of the June meeting which will backup the pamphlets that need to be printed and distributed.

A gentleman from the audience asked Mr. Bateman what were the biologists reasons for changing the deer season to January 13 from January 20. Mr. Bateman answered that there are two things in Louisiana that he and his staff has tried to work on since 1985. One is to shorten the overall length of the deer season and the other was to have less bucks only days and more either sex days. The reason that the season does not run to the 20th is because you would have 63 days of deer hunting and how much is enough asked Mr. Bateman. The gentleman from the audience proposed to the Commission that they go to the maximum days of January 20 instead of shortening it to January 13. The gentleman asked why was 3 days taken from the dog season and given to the still hunters. Mr.

Bateman answered that this addressed the survey and that is the reason it changed.

Mr. David Brazelle, Lincoln Parish, Carvette Community, addressed the Commission. Mr. Brazelle is a dog hunter and he has no fight or no arguments with the still hunters and he does not think people should be getting up at the meeting and fussing back and forth on the still hunter versus the dog hunter. Everybody should work together. Where he is from dog hunting is a community affair and they feel like it is their heritage, privilege and right to dog hunt.

Mr. Barton suggested that since Louisiana has far more deer in the state than they have had for many years that the season be extended to the end of the allowed time and maybe not open it as early.

Chairman Pol called for a motion for adjournment. Mr. Jenkins made a motion that the Thursday, April 5, 1990 Commission meeting adjourn and reconvene at 9 a.m. Friday, April 6, 1990. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed unanimously.

At Friday's meeting Mr. Bateman presented a notice of intent on the resident game hunting regulations for 1990-91 to the Commission for approval and asked for any changes that the board would like to make. Chairman Pol asked Mr. Jones, Chairman of the Hunting Regulations Committee, if there would be any recommended changes.

Mr. Jones stated that he does not have any recommended changes. Dr. Hines asked if there were no problems he would like to suggest that the muzzleloader season for the wildlife management areas be opened for the whole week. Mr. Bateman urged Dr. Hines that he not change the muzzleloader recommendation on the wildlife management areas. Dr. Hines asked "why". Mr. Bateman advised that the staff personnel felt very strongly that there was very poor participation during the week and it tied up personnel doing an unnecessary job. The season recommended is completely adequate and commensurate with the other recommendations on the short seasons explained Mr. Bateman. After a short discussion between Bateman, Dr. Hines made a motion that Dr. Hines and Mr. muzzleloader season on the wildlife management areas run concurrent with the outside season and change it from 2 days to 7 days. (Several black powder clubs have approached Dr. Hines with this request). Mr. Jenkins seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Bateman asked for any other requests for changes from the Commissioners. Chairman Pol asked if anyone in the audience would like to make a public comment. There being none Mr. Jones made a motion that the resolution/notice of intent be adopted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously.

Chairman Pol asked when is the printing of the hunting pamphlets authorized. Mr. Bateman advised this is usually done after the Legislative Session in mid-July. If the ratification of the

hunting seasons rule is done in June hopefully by mid-August the pamphlet will be out commented Mr. Bateman.

(The full text of the resolution is made a part of the record)

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

April 5, 1990

#### RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana
  Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting
  seasons for resident game birds and guadrupeds, and
- WHEREAS, authority to establish seasons, bag limits, possession limits and other rules and regulations for the hunting, taking and possession of any species of wild game birds or quadrupeds is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:115, and
- WHEREAS, this action will provide for the protection and conservation of these natural resources and allow for

recreational opportunities for sport hunting on both public and private lands, and

WHEREAS, the Commission and Department staff have jointly reviewed and considered all available biological information and requests from sportsmen of the state, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rule, regulations, season dates, and bag limits affecting sport hunting of resident game species are hereby adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

Warren Pol, Chairman

LA Wildlife and Fisheries

Fisheries

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

LA Dept. of Wildlife and

Fisheries

(The full text of the notice of intent is made a part of the record)

NOTICE OF INTENT

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to promulgate rules and regulations governing the hunting of resident game birds and game quadrupeds. A synopsis of said rule is attached to and made part of this notice of intent. (A more detailed copy of the rule is available upon request from the address listed below).

Public hearing will be held at regularly scheduled Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission meeting in May and June. Additionally, interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed rule until May 31, 1990 to Hugh A. Bateman, Administrator, Game Division, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898.

CITATION: None - Changes Annually

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and

Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: ( ).

Warren Pol

Chairman

## SUMMARY OF 1990-91

#### HUNTING SEASON REGULATION

Quail: Nov. 22-Feb. 28 - Daily Bag Limit 10, Possession 20

Rabbit: Oct. 6-Feb. 28 - Daily Bag Limit 8, Possession 16

Squirrel: Oct. 6-Jan. 27, Daily Bag Limit 8, Possession 16

Deer: One per day, 6 per season

Area 1 - 60 days

16 days still hunting only Nov. 10-25

7 days still hunting only Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader)

37 days with or without dogs Dec. 8-Jan. 13

Area 2 - 60 days

28 days still hunting only Nov. 3-30

7 days still hunting only Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader)

25 days with or without dogs Dec. 8-Jan. 1

Area 3 - 60 days

28 days still hunting only Nov. 3-30

7 days still hunting only Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader)

25 days still hunting only Dec. 8-Jan 1

Area 4 - 46 days

9 days still hunting only Nov. 17-25

7 days still hunting only Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader)

30 days still hunting only Dec. 8-Jan. 6

Area 5- 16 days

9 days still hunting only Nov. 17-25

7 days still hunting only Dec. 1-7 (Muzzleloader)

Turkey - One per day, 3 per season

Area A - 30 days. March 30-April 28

Area B - 37 days. March 23-April 28

Area C - 9 days. April 20-April 28

Area D - 16 days. April 13-April 28

At Friday's meeting the Date for the Joint Commission Meeting With Texas Parks and Wildlife was set. Secretary Van Sickle stated that a letter has been received from Mr. Charles Travis, Director, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and out of the two alternatives dates that Louisiana suggested they chose the week of July 16-20 and would like for Louisiana to pick two days within that week which would best suit the Commissioners. The dates chosen were July 19-20, 1990 and Chairman Pol asked Secretary Van Sickle to talk with the Texas people and see if those dates were acceptable.

At Friday's meeting the Dates for the June and July Commission Meetings were set. The June Commission dates were set for June 7-8, 1990, to be held in Baton Rouge at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building on Quail Drive. The July Commission dates were set for July 5-6, 1990, to be held in Baton Rouge at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building on Quail Drive.

At Friday's meeting the Secretary's Report was given by Secretary Van Sickle. Secretary Van Sickle explained what the SEAMAP Committee did to promote the investment in fisheries data collection. Louisiana is the most active state in the SEAMAP Program which is the collection of fishery independent data. brochure was published which is used to try and get support for putting more dollars into the fishery data collection program. amount of dollars that is being put into fishery data collection per species managed is increasing inversely proportionally with the amount of management that is being done. All states have recognized the problem but still have not been able to get the National Marine Fisheries Service or the Congress to appropriate the funds for monitoring fish recreational or commercial.

The New Orleans properties (properties next to K. Paul restaurant and the parking garage) will go up for sale on April 19, 1990 at 12 noon. The Times-Picayune has been contacted about writing an article on this which would help with the publicity and possibly have more people bidding on the properties. This will be public auction and the minimum bids established by the Commission at the Monroe meeting will be used.

In the Governor's Executive Budget a cover letter was written transmitting the budget to the appropriate legislative committees.

In the letter the Governor mentions the dedication of 20 millions for land acquisition.

The budget that the department/ has proposed is basically at a standstill at this point state Secretary Van Skckle. first time ever the Governor's Office is proposing that the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries receive general fund dollars to accomplish its mission of managing fish and wildlife. department is not looking at anymore layoff but if the Governor had not come forward and given the department 4.5 million dollars in general fund dollars there would have been layoffs. Governor has put into the budget 3.37 million dollars in general funds for basically operational needs of the department and of that 1.9 million dollars will be dedicated to the new radio system and 1.5 million will be used to fund the Aquatic Plant Section. There are roughly 40 people in this section and about a half of million dollars worth of chemical are used to spray water hyacinths and submerged aquatic plants on an annual basis. Secretary Van Sickle thinks the department has been treated very fairly in the budget process. This is still preliminary and it will have to go through the Budget Committee and approved by the Legislature.

There are 10 new positions in the budget. The 4 for the Alligator Program are being funded by the alligator tags. An Alligator Coordinator was hired this morning advised Secretary Van Sickle and he is Buddy Goatcher. Mr. Goatcher will start work on the 23rd of

this month and will in turn assist in picking personnel that will be at Rockefeller, north Louisiana and southeast Louisiana. There are almost 100 alligator farms with 200,000 alligators in Louisiana.

There are 4 new positions in the Law Enforcement Division for the Oyster Strike Force. These positions are funded 100% by the Oyster Industry through the new Oyster Harvester's License. This strike force will make a big difference in the oyster industry in Louisiana.

Two new positions have been shifted that will be new and funded out of the Conservation Fund. These positions will be working with the television program.

At the next monthly meeting or at the June meeting Secretary Van Sickle advised that they would like to have a quarterly budget report and asked the Commissioners if they wanted to have a full Budget Committee meeting or just a briefing. Chairman Pol advised that Mr. Jenkins is the Chairman of the Budget Committee and recommended that he be given a report and in turn he can report at the commission meeting. Secretary Van Sickle asked Mr. Jenkins when he wanted to have the Budget Meeting. Mr. Jenkins advised that the meeting will be held in June. Ms. Bettsie Baker will handle this for the Commission.

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A couple of existing positions that were shifted are a new law enforcement pilot who will be working out of New Iberia, a vacancy has been shifted to the Scenic Rivers Program with interviews next Thursday for a Scenic Rivers Program Coordinator. Mr. Jenkins asked Secretary Van Sickle if she could tap the fund for scenic rivers money in light of the fact that it is not totally wildlife and fisheries. Secretary Van Sickle stated yes and it is part of the mission to take care of the rivers.

The Oyster Task Force has requested basically a 15 minute slot on the May or June agenda to talk about some of their concerns. The department meets with the task force basically on a monthly routine scheduled meeting and they would like to speak with the Commission. Chairman Pol stated that this meeting should be in June for the simple reason that the shrimp meeting will be taking place in New Orleans at the May meeting.

Secretary Van Sickle stated that some of the Shrimp Task Force recommendations should go to the Governor's office and will be transmitted to the appropriate parties.

The Finfish Panel had a meeting last week and went through the Black Drum Management Plan with only one member of the panel not supporting it. The Finfish Panel, however, wanted to know if they should continue to meet, what was their charge, etc. Secretary Van Sickle advised that the Finfish Panel original charge was two

fold, one was to help the department draft a Finfish Policy for the state that would insure both consistency in how the fishery is managed and fairness. Two, the panel was suppose to serve as a sounding board for the department, staff and commission in the setting of regulations so that both recreational and commercial fishing interests would have a voice in the fishery policy. that the black drum has been done the panel was wondering if they should continue to meet. Secretary Van Sickle advised the Commission of what had been decided. It was decided that the panel continue to exist and still serve as a sounding board for fishery management plans that will be developed but will not meet on a monthly basis. The next fishery management plan will probably be on mullet stated Secretary Van Sickle and the Finfish Panel will not meet again until there is draft management plans on these fish. This coming year they will be looking at management plans for mullet, red drum, speckled trout and sand trout at a minimum. These four plans will be completed in the next 12 months. Finfish Panel has finalized their recommendations to the department on a finfish policy (a way that they proposed the finfish be managed for the state of Louisiana) and the staff is looking at and Dr. Clark has specifically been working with Mr. Chuck Wilson, Mr. John Roussel and the rest of the panel on some ideas for modification, etc. and in June Secretary Van Sickle would like to bring it before the Commission for promulgation.

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September 9-12, 1990, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will host the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies meeting in New Orleans and would like to have a reception with the Commissioners involved with the rest of the Commissioners and State Directors from around the country. Information will be sent out on this.

Next Thursday the House and Senate Natural Resources Committee will be asked to adopt the Coastal Restoration Plan! The committees did reject the plan last week and basically what happened was the landowners, oil and gas interests, and the Louisiana Chemical Association lobbied hard enough to convenience the committee that this plan might prevent future development on the coast and they wanted to make sure that there was some language in the plan that would allow a balancing of economic interest versus the protection of the coast. It is getting down to the point of an issue called "no net loss". The whole issue is that mitigation must be required for every activity that damages the coast. Currently/if an oil company has a canal that destroys 60 acres of wetland they are required to do mitigation which they are doing now but the companies do not want this formalized in the policy part of the plan advised Secretary Van Sickle. Chairman Pol stated that the consensus is that they will accept the policy.

Secretary concluded her report with a discussion on the long-range plan for the department. The department has been in the process

of developing a long-range plan which began in March 1989 with the divisions sitting down and sorting out some of their priorities and their feelings about what the mission of the department was. document has been developed that is the start of the department's long-range plan and the staff has basically come up with a mission that should control or have influence on everything that is done The mission is: "The Department of Wildlife in the department. and Fisheries mission is to manage and conserve Louisiana's renewable fish and wildlife resources and their supporting habitats replenishment, protection, enhancement, research. development, education and wise use". The philosophy that has been developed by the staff is that: "Louisiana's renewable fish and wildlife resources and the habitats that support them are vital to the quality of life and the environmental and economic well being of the citizens of this state and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will serve as chief public advocate and stewart to ensure that these resources are available for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations". The visions for the department are very ambitious and three fold. They are: "The department will be responsive to the needs of the citizens of the state of Louisiana and to its employees by continuously evaluating and improving its efforts. The department will be a recognized leading agency in wildlife and fisheries conservation development and management and will be the best agency in the state because it will be a team built on mutual trust and respect". Secretary Van Sickle stated that if you don't buy in on the first three pages of the

plan you should not be working for the department. Continuing Secretary Van Sickle listed how to accomplish the visions through long-range planing. 1) Make decisions based upon scientific facts and statistical data and methods. 2) Continuously acquire, protect, and manage unique habitat. 3) Be a prime promoter of the state's outdoor recreational opportunities. 4) Be a prime promoter of the state's seafood, fur, and alligator industry. 5) Maximize commercial and recreational benefits to the state from its fish and wildlife resources. 6) Spend the money where the priorities are Establish budget priorities and set financial and budget allocations accordingly. Secretary Van Sickle advised that how this will be accomplished will be to implement it down to the last individual member that works for the department and get them involved. The department plans to do this through the development of operational plan. Secretary Van Sickle stated that based upon the mission of each wildlife program and each education program and the law enforcement division an operational plan will be developed each year. This will ultimately translate to the job assignment for every individual who works for the department so that their daily operations tie into not just the long-range plan but the operational plan for the department which ties into the mission and philosophy of what the department is suppose to be doing. Secretary Van Sickle explained how this will be accomplished. There will be a performance plan and review for every individual who works for the department including the Assistant Secretary. On an annual basis work assignments will be set forward.

quarterly basis the supervisor will meet with the employee and basically review his performance to date. About 80 supervisors have been sent through management training. On an annual basis this performance evaluation will be reviewed formally and go into the personnel file of each individual who works for the department. By May 1 the operational plans will be completed and by July 1 the performance and evaluation will be set in the personnel files for everybody who works for wildlife and fisheries. This is a first for the department, the states of Mississippi, Arizona, California, etc. are going through a long-range plan right now advised Secretary Van Sickle.

Mr. Jenkins as Secretary Van Sickle to give an update on the District Attorney's disposition reports. Secretary Van Sickle asked Mr. Kell McInnis to address this. Mr. McInnis updated the Commission on where the department stands with the D.A.'s Association and the disposition report. There are 41 of the district attorneys responding and providing the formatted disposition report that was requested. There are 23 that have not complied with the department's request. During the last several weeks, Secretary Van Sickle and Mr. Puckett had the opportunity to meet with the D.A.'s Association at their annual meeting in Monroe. A sub-committee has been appointed to work with the department to further modify the report and make it simpler and easier to comply with which will provide a more clear and precise report in the future. Next Thursday a meeting has been scheduled in Thibodaux,

Louisiana, with the sub-committee and additional compliance is expected along with a better idea of how to formate the report so that it can be sent out for the next quarter. The next set of documents going out to the D.A.'s subsequent to the meeting next week. Secretary Van Sickle asked if all but 15 D.A.'s have responded. Mr. McInnis pointed out these were parishes and not district attorneys and may be somewhat confusing. Parishes are grouped and represents 1 district attorney so in categories it looks like all but 15 have responded stated Secretary Van Sickle.

At Firday's meeting Chairman Pol at this point asked that the record show that Captain Pete Vujnovich joined the meeting. The record acknowledges this. Chairman Pol asked Secretary Van Sickle to have complied for him for the last 12 months, including this meeting, the attendance record of Mr. Joe Palmisano. Chairman Pol asked for further business to come before the meeting.

Ms. Connie Glockner, President, Northshore Chapter, Concerned Crabbers of Louisiana, Inc., addressed the Commission. Ms. Glockner made the following statement: "As President of the North Shore Chapter of Concerned Crabbers of Louisiana I'm presenting you with petitions requesting that your Department extend the one mile prohibition on shell dredging in Lake Pontchartrain to a three mile prohibition. These petitions were circulated in St. Tammany and Tangipahoa parishes and contains 8.744 names of concerned citizens of Louisiana, I would like for you to know that the majority of

citizens signing this petition felt it should have read, aboutsh shell dredging completely, and many would not sign until it did.

We also have copies for you of resolutions of local governing bodies around the lake, police juries - parish councils - town and city councils - and from organizations such as the Louisiana Wildlife Federation, the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation, the Audubon Society and the League of Women Voters, all requesting either a halt to or further restricting shell dredging.

Although we realize that the shell dredging companies have a lot of money and a lot of pull in the state legislature and are lobbying there very hard, when thousands of people in one area all agree that this practice is destructive and want it stopped, this certainly should make a statement.

We are not a bunch of tree huggers or ecomaniacs that the shell dredgers are trying to paint a picture of us. We are hard working, everyday people that are sick and tired of watching our lake being destroyed and fed up with officials that refuse to do anything about it. We also have had enough of an industry that blatantly ignores court orders to halt, ignores the will of the people and ignores scientific facts about the destruction they are doing. They have had, not one, not two, not 3, 4, 5, 6, but 7 violations in restrictive zones in 30 days. There is proof of this on radar and Lorn-C tapes. Do you believe that if a commercial fisherman

had seven repeated violations that he would still be fishing? I'll tell you where he'd be, he would be in jail.

According to your lease with shell dredgers, if they are in violation of restricted zones of if environmental impacts occur or threaten to occur, you have the right to suspend shell dredging operations. How much proof do you need before the buck stops passing back and forth between departments. We believe the buck stops here and are challenging you to do you job and stop shell dredging.

We do not stand here before you today without paying a price. I am constantly being called and asked what can we do about dredges that are deliberately destroying our crab traps right in front of us while we are running them. Apparently a food source for the consumer has no value in this state. Until such a time that someone, somewhere in this state government has enough guts to stand up and stop shell dredging as all other states have done, they will continue to run rough shod over the people and destroy our environment.

Everytime this department is called upon to stop shell dredging, all we hear is about a conflict of interest because of revenue. But meanwhile when commercial and recreational fishermen spend their hard earned dollars for licenses to fish in these areas, the department sees no conflict of interest when it comes to

restricting or stopping any method of fishing that it feels is wrong or threatening. I ask you, if not what's good for the goose good for the gander?

I would also like to address the fallacy of mitigation from the shell dredging companies. This is a joke and a slap in the face of the people's integrity. Under the guise of doing the people a justice by building fish reefs, they take clam shells from one place in the lake and put them in another. We won't be appeased or sno-balled by this stupidity. If they really want to do the people a justice, just get out! Thank you." Ms. Glockner informed that Commission that copies of everything that she has provided the Commission with will be going to the Governor's office.

Chairman Pol Thanked Ms. Glockner for her statement and asked if there was any further business to come up before the Commission. A gentleman for the audience stated that he would like to comment on shell dredging. Chairman Pol asked that this not be gotten in today as it is in the courts and will take the petition and Ms. Glockner's statement into consideration.

There being no other business Mr. Jenkins made a motion to adjourn the April Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously.

Virginia Van Sickle

## Secretary

VVS:sb